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Vol. CXCIX, No. 2592
OCTOBER 8, 1949

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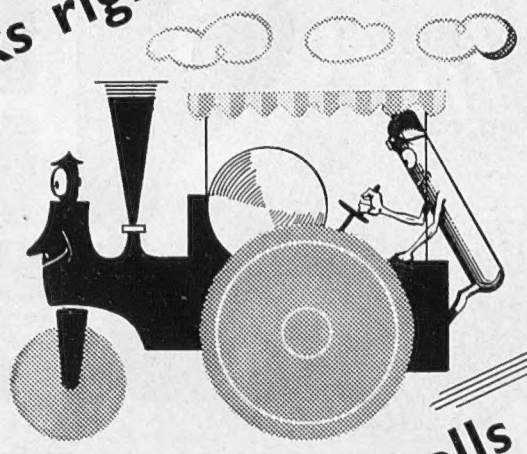

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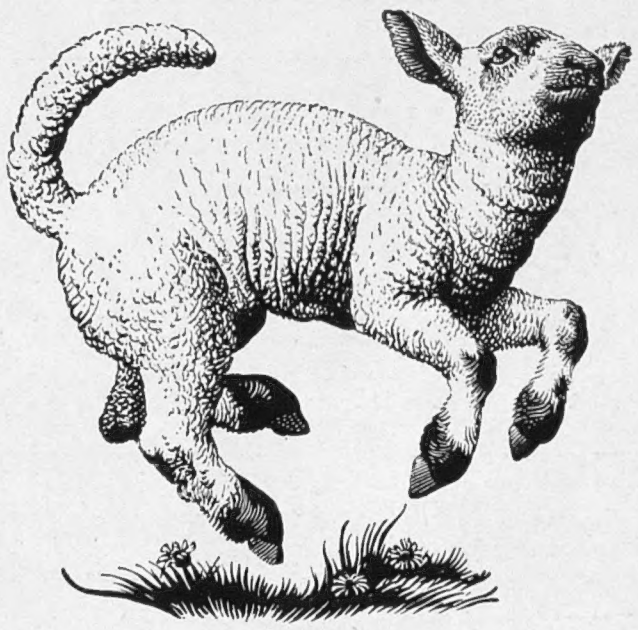

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Volume CXCIX No. 2592 The SPHERE, London, October 8, 1949

The SPHERE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "THE GRAPHIC"
THE EMPIRE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

THE EARL OF HAREWOOD AND HIS BRIDE—THIS FAREWELL PICTURE WAS TAKEN AT NORTHOLT AIRPORT AS THEY SET OUT FOR THEIR HONEYMOON TO PARIS, VENICE, ROME AND CAPRI: Earlier in the day vast crowds had lined the streets to see them drive from St. Mark's, North Audley Street, to the reception at St. James's Palace. (Wedding pictures will be found on pages 44, 45 and 49)

The Earl of Harewood, elder son of the Princess Royal and a nephew of the King, was married last week to Miss Maria Donata Stein, daughter of Mr. Erwin Stein, a musician who came to London from Vienna before the war, and Mrs. Stein, the daughter of a Mecklenburg clergyman. The story-book romance of the young couple appealed to the imagination of Londoners and vast crowds gathered to welcome the arrival of the bride and bridegroom at the church and to cheer them on their way after the ceremony. The King and Queen journeyed down from Balmoral for the occasion and were present at the church, together with the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Princess Margaret and other members of the Royal Family. Queen Mary did not attend the church service, but was present at the St. James's Palace reception.

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

The Light in the Tower.—

The great debate is over. The Members have returned to their holiday preoccupations and the nation remains very much in the same condition of uncertainty and doubt. The new dust of election propaganda has settled on the island fog, hardly intensifying it. There were some brilliant speeches, intemperate and sometimes in bad taste, as propaganda requires. But not one of the protagonists on either side had the courage to tell the truth, the whole truth, or to unveil the hideous, grinning skull. It was first and last a vote-catching, vote-saving exercise. Who has bravely spoken the truth in these last anxious weeks? Not Ministers, not Parliament men. One private economist, two or three industrialists in broadcast debates. These men have dared to say (not being mesmerised by General Election votes) that this country cannot afford to keep idlers and incompetents in full employment nor to spend unlimited millions on social benefits if Britain is to compete successfully in the world markets and restore her credit. The dust lies heavy on the old Parliament. This debate does little to encourage us to expect salvation from a new one. The light has gone out in the tower again, but we are hardly conscious of any difference.

The Missing Jolt.—

I write a Newsletter (of a sort) myself—have done so for rather more than a quarter-century. Perhaps that is why I am inundated with circulars from rival Newsletter-writers which point out how vital it is for me (if I would be *au fait*) to subscribe to *their* Newsletters. Well, I will give free publicity to one such—K.-H.'s: "If the Government had the capacity to give the nation the quality of leadership it now needs, but which I do not believe will be given ever again except by a National Government, devaluation of the £ would have been accompanied by the following measures: (*a*) summoning of Parliament; (*b*) defence expenditure cut by £100,000,000; (*c*) food subsidies cut by 10 per cent.; (*d*) price of tobacco raised by 10 per cent.; (*e*) American film imports cut by 25 per cent.; (*f*) a categorical statement that wages and salaries were to be frozen for twelve months. I give these as examples of the kind of jolt the nation needed to accompany devaluation." How well he puts it, but where have I recently read the same sentiments and suggestions in more halting phrases? Perhaps all Newsletters are very much alike in wisdom and topicality. I agree about the *jolt*. I am inclined to agree about leadership only under National Government. I have said something about my conviction that there can be no leadership of courage and truth so long as party advantages at a General Election divert one eye from the vital needs of national survival. And that goes for all parties!

An Academic Exercise?—

I cannot believe that any student of politics can have thought or said that the Government's motion, which the Houses reassembled to debate, could result in any way but a substantial Government majority, a satisfactory "vote of confidence," as the Cabinet would call it. Members of all parties doubted the success of devaluation, but a majority of these would hardly dare to oppose what the leaders described as a stark necessity "if Britain is to survive on her own feet and employment and the social services are to be maintained at the present high level." In short, the motion begged every question, stifled the arguments of half the potential opposition, and scorned the residue which would neither be hoodwinked nor blackmailed. The House, in short, was called back, at the Opposition's request, and I doubt not the Government's satisfaction, for an academic exercise the result of which nobody doubted beforehand except in detail and degree. But so long as Parliament retains any democratic importance, records are valuable, and it is proper that those whose doubts about devaluation were sincere to the point of opposition should have their arguments recorded officially and any admissions or information dragged out of the Ministers ventilated in the streets. Such was the general opinion before the "historic debate" opened on September 27. And the Chancellor's mild sermon which initiated it, full of platitude and polite persuasion, failed to administer the King-Hall jolt. *Is* there a crisis? If so, it must be tackled after the General Election. Meanwhile, as a stopgap and a vote-catcher, the Chancellor announces another raid on the "capitalists."

THE MARQUIS OF MILFORD HAVEN AND HIS BRIDE-TO-BE—THE NEWLY-ENGAGED COUPLE AT THE CROWNING OF THE BEAUTY QUEEN CEREMONY DURING ROMSEY AND DISTRICT FESTIVAL WEEK: The coronation was conducted by Mr. Douglas Fairbanks, Jnr., whose daughter, Daphne Fairbanks, is seen seated on the left. Seated next to Mrs. Simpson is Commander W. F. G. North, of the Mountbattens' Broadlands estate. The Marquis's engagement to Mrs. Simpson was announced last week. The bride-to-be is the former wife of a Chicago business man

General Election—The Best Policy.—

Mr. A. R. Harvie, in a letter to *The Times* on September 26, put plainly what many of us believe to be the facts regarding the election policy of the contending parties. The focal point of the electorate's interest will be the ratio of the wage-packet to the cost of living. The political consciousness of the electors has certainly been awakened by wireless facilities and the slogans of the left-wing Press and propagandists, but that consciousness is politically narrowed down to backyard economics. It is still the "big or little loaf." So here we are, likely to have contending for our votes two major parties both pledged to the Welfare State, both refusing to cut by a penny the Socialist heaven of health, education and pensions. The Socialists claim to have invented and given us all these blessings. The Conservatives fairly claim to have shared in the invention and will maintain that, with greater efficiency in administration and the encouragement of free enterprise, they can not only maintain the new blessings but can cut down taxation. Neither party dares to risk votes by telling the truth—that (short of the miracle of increased production and undreamed-of new markets and, indeed, bricks made without imported straw) national expenditure cannot be maintained at the present level on welfare benefits without inexorable bankruptcy in a matter almost of months. In short, their only point of difference is, and will be, between complete nationalisation or free enterprise as a means of maintaining the Welfare State with all its present benefits and full employment. The next Government must face dangers and difficulties almost unprecedented in our long history. It is most unlikely to survive its full term. The next election is said to be of absolutely vital importance. I am not so sure that the next but one may not, with average luck, prove the key election. Far, far better, if party politics are to survive, that the Conservatives at the eleventh hour should think again, fall back on courage and truth, and perhaps lose the coming election on that ticket, to come in perhaps in 1952 with a panache unsullied and all their convictions proved to the hilt.

Strachey or Moses.—

I have said often enough, dipping nib in vitriol, what I think of party political broadcasts, one of the shames and degradations of our shabby age. And I have sometimes hinted that certain personalities in the Socialist Cabinet are not *personæ gratæ*—by me. Some I have judged (very partially, I admit) by their *obiter dicta*. That, I admit, is superficial criticism. It might be that if I were cast on a desert island with Messrs. Bevan, Shinwell, Dalton and Strachey, I should grow to love them as brothers and value them as the salt of the earth. As things are, I am cast with them on an island that is far from deserted and never contact them in the crowds and queues. And Mr. Strachey remains for me a Dr. Fell, merely on account of his speeches and sayings. I doubt if they could be more egotistic and partial, even for a party broadcast. He must steal everybody's clothes for his party and Moses' fame for himself. *His* party invented rationing. He produced for Britain a young generation whose health and glory evoke the envy of the world. "I am Moses, and when I speak, let no dog bark." It is a simple choice for us, he tells us: Strachey or starvation; Socialism or liquidation. Under this Moses, we have secured a balanced diet which makes the feeding of the people in any other European country appear mere husks and nuts. And under Socialism a balanced budget and security from the cradle to the grave. So, we shall probably vote for Strachey and his assistants. It is as simple as that—to this Moses.

Another Scrap of Paper.—

Russia has denounced the treaty of friendship with Yugoslavia. It had fifteen years more to run. There is, of course, the danger that this denunciation may be a prelude to armed attack, which would be likely to end in atom world war. Cold war quite inexorably ends in hot war, but I dare say there is no immediate anxiety. Anyway, hot war and world war often enough come suddenly from some cause not foreseen. Yugoslavia, at least, knows rather more clearly where she stands with Russia, and may well say: If *that* was friendship, give me acknowledged enmity. For the past year and more, the treaty of friendship has brought her all the vituperation, all the cold-shouldering, all the hate and bitterness which a nation at bay might reserve for its proven aggressor and would-be destroyer. Russia has left no stone unturned in her search for the means to murder Tito and re-enslave Yugoslavia. We hold no brief for dictators in any form, but least of all in Cominform. We have no illusions about honour in the thieves' kitchen. But somehow Tito smells the sweeter for this latest purge.

The Motor Show.—

Soon enough we shall learn from Earl's Court the immediate effects of devaluation. I shall be surprised if the first reports do not flatter the Chancellor's optimism. I never remember first reports of sales and enquiries at the Motor Show which were not encouraging. For us at home, this autumn show, which used to curtail the holidays of enthusiastic motorists, is now nothing at all but an exercise in altruism. We sit in the new cars and play with the enchanting gadgets and endeavour to rejoice that overseas babies will enjoy playing with the new toys. For you and me the "old flivver" must rumble on, as it has done spasmodically since 1939. Five years ago we were eighteenth on the list of our local dealer for the new car. To-day we stand eighteenth on the list. With no accepted priorities there are no legitimate means by which we can acquire the new toys, or indeed fairly modern second-hand toys unless we are prepared to pay twice and more the list-price value of a 1950 car for a 1947 model.

Lord Milford Haven.—

A Sunday paper published some "gems" alleged to have fallen from Lord Milford Haven in an interview. It would be unfair to judge him unheard. But I am old-fashioned. I was born in the reign of his great-great-grandmother, and I think she was not the last of her line to turn in her grave or to shudder if Lord Milford Haven did, indeed, say a fraction of the confessions credited to him. For example: "People call me Britain's most eligible bachelor . . ." "It all began when I was best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding. Before that my name was linked with Princess Margaret's. That was pure invention. The same thing applies to Sharman Douglas, whose name has been so closely coupled with mine. . . ." "American girls . . . go after money. . . ." They "are more lovely to look at than British girls. But British complexions are basically more beautiful. Only our women don't apply make-up so skilfully. . . ." If Lord Milford Haven did not say these things, he must have already tackled the man who attributed them to him and must have extracted a grovelling apology.

THE OLD STAGER

Trial by Jury for THE DUNMOW FLITCH

Four Couples Receive the Award at Dunmow, Essex

The town of Dunmow cures flitches by the thousand, but the gammons for the 1949 trial, held last Saturday at the Foakes Memorial Hall, came from New Zealand. The trial was revived with all the customary ceremonial, and wireless listeners heard question and answer as Mr. and Mrs. Laws, of Dunmow, and the couples from Penn, Wolverhampton and Chesterfield, faced the vigorous questioning of counsel for the prosecution. The four couples survived the ordeal, and thus the ceremony begun by the Lady Juga in 1111 and perpetuated (with interruptions) through the centuries was voted a great success in the best traditions of the Dunmow "Court of Love." The participants took the oath of felicity on a platform outside Dunmow's Star Inn, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Laws, two of the entrants. In earlier days the ceremony took place at the village of Little Dunmow. It has also been held at Ilford, in the same county.

THE CLAIMANTS TAKE THE OATH IN FRONT OF THE STAR INN AT DUNMOW, ESSEX: On a stage before the celebrated hostelry they repeated the ancient doggerel lines. After proving to the court that for a year and a day they had lived in domestic felicity, the four couples each received a 16-lb. gammon of bacon, the gift of the Government of New Zealand

THE JURY OF MAIDENS WHICH, WITH THE AID OF A JURY OF BACHELORS, CONSIDERED THE EVIDENCE SUBMITTED TO THE COURT AT DUNMOW: The trial took place in the Foakes Memorial Hall, and the couples, in proving that they had enjoyed at least a year and a day of unbroken matrimonial harmony, had to face a barrage of questions

THE TRIAL OF MR. AND MRS. W. J. LAWS, OF THE STAR INN, DUNMOW: Mrs. Laws is seen on the witness-stand, and her husband is seen in the chair on the right, awaiting his turn for cross-examination

THE WINNERS ARE CHAIRED THROUGH DUNMOW, AFTER APPEARING SUCCESSFULLY BEFORE "THE COURT OF LOVE": The leading couple are Mr. and Mrs. Laws, of Dunmow. The other winners, also chaired through the town, were Mr. and Mrs. Cocker, of Chesterfield, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, of Penn, Buckinghamshire, and Mr. and Mrs. Shelley, of Wolverhampton

MR. AND MRS. SHELLEY, OF WOLVERHAMPTON, WITH THEIR 16-LB. GAMMON OF BACON: There would have been no revival of the flitch trials this year if a New Zealand farmer had not very generously given fifteen pigs for the Food-for-Britain campaign

THE BRIDE, A CHARMING FIGURE IN A GOWN OF WHITE BROCADE PATTERNED WITH A SILVER DESIGN, LEAVING HER HOME AT MELBURY COURT, KENSINGTON, IN COMPANY WITH HER FATHER, MR. ERWIN STEIN, EN ROUTE TO ST. MARK'S CHURCH, NORTH AUDLEY STREET: The bride's long tulle veil was bordered with two rows of old lace given by H.R.H. the Princess Royal. It was held in place with a garland of gardenias. Her double row of pearls was the wedding gift of Lord Harewood

THE HAREWOOD WEDDING

VAST CROWDS CHEER THE BRIDE AT ST. MARK'S, NORTH AUDLEY STREET

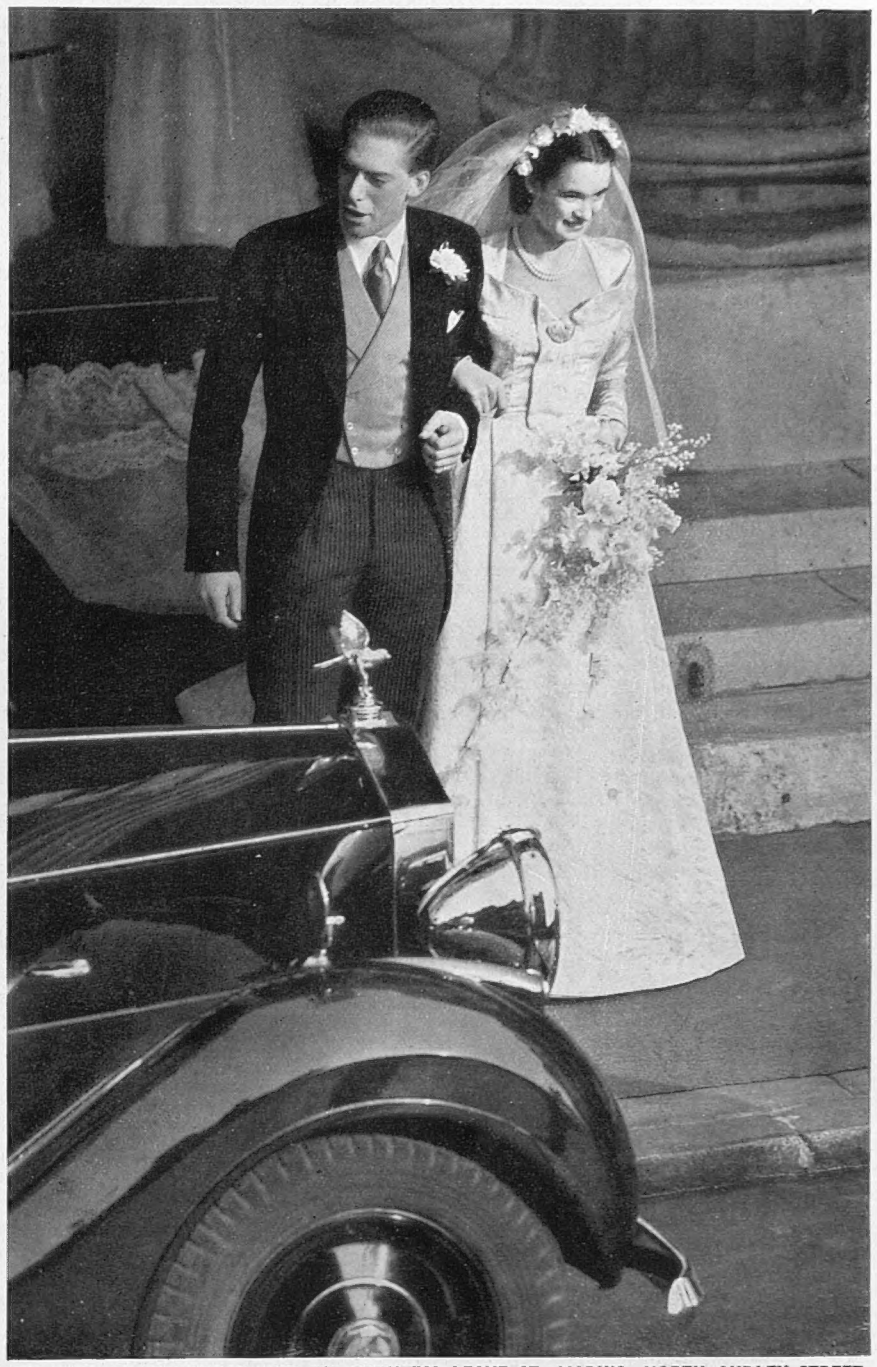
THE BRIDEGROOM'S MOTHER, THE PRINCESS ROYAL: Her Royal Highness Princess Mary, Dowager Countess of Harewood, arriving at St. Mark's, North Audley Street, for the wedding of her elder son, the seventh Earl of Harewood. During the service the Princess Royal sat beside the King. The gallery was mostly reserved for workers and tenants from the Harewood estate, who came up to London as guests of the Earl

THE PARENTS OF THE BRIDE DRIVE TOGETHER TO ST. JAMES'S PALACE FOR THE WEDD T RECEPTION: Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Stein, whose home is at Melbury Court, Kensing Mr. Stein, who works for a firm of London music publishers, came to London from Vie just before the last war. Mrs. Stein is the daughter of a clergyman from Mecklen

MOUNTED POLICE TRIED TO CONTROL THE VAST CROWDS IN NORTH AUDLEY STREET AS THE GUESTS ARRIVED : An overhead view of the scene showing people ten deep on the pavement opposite the church. At one moment the police were swept aside by the excited spectators and police reinforcements were called

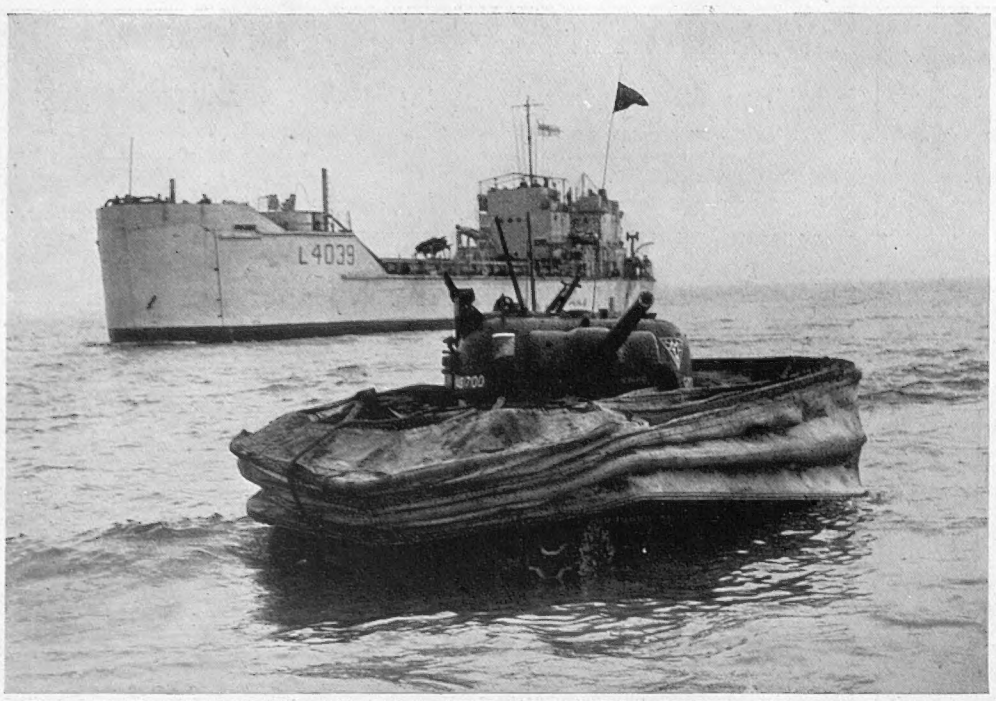
THE LONDON POLICE ONCE AGAIN DID THEIR GOOD-HUMOURED BEST : With the policemen shoving, the sergeants directing and the superintendents planning tactics and strategy, their efforts proved unavailing, and in the end the crowd surged forward to new positions where they entrenched themselves with determination

THERE WAS CHEERING ALL THE WAY : A section of the crowd greeting the bride and bridegroom as they drove to St. James's Palace for the wedding reception. The crowds were unexpectedly great, and many Londoners, it seemed, decided upon having a late lunch hour in order to greet the Earl of Harewood and his Countess



THE EARL OF HAREWOOD AND HIS COUNTESS LEAVE ST. MARK'S, NORTH AUDLEY STREET, AFTER THE WEDDING CEREMONY : From North Audley Street they drove through the cheering crowds which lined the route all the way to St. James's Palace

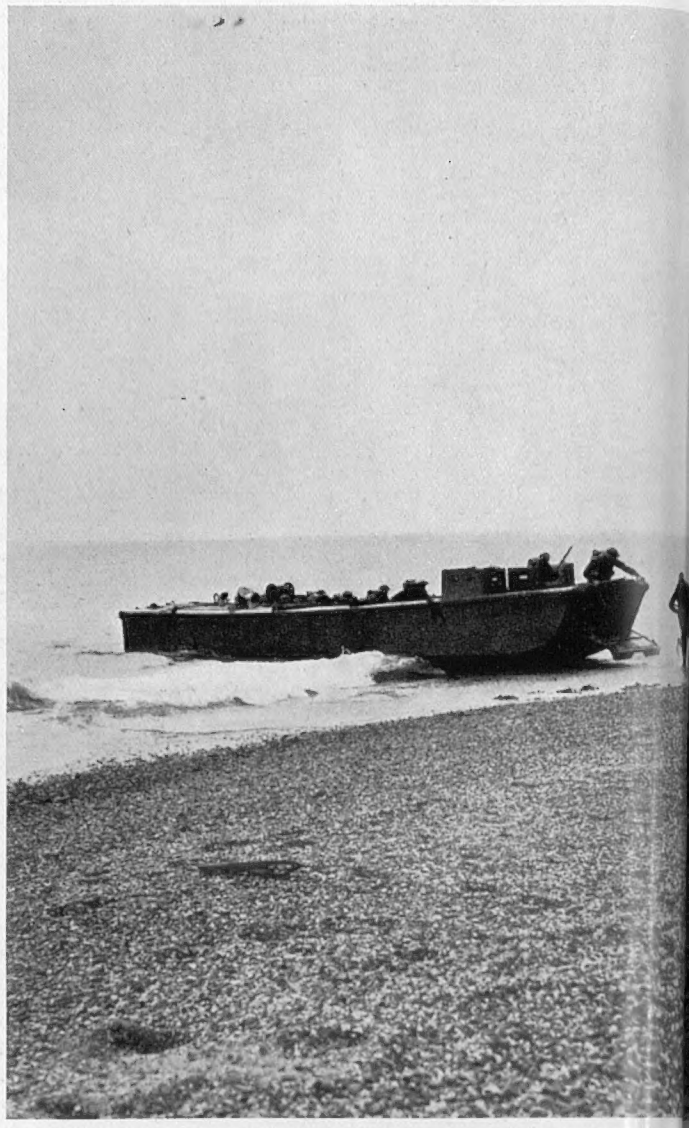
THE COUNTESS OF HAREWOOD WAVES A GREETING TO THE CROWD AS SHE LEAVES ON HER HONEYMOON : The bride leaving St. James's Palace en route for Northolt Aerodrome. The Earl and Countess travelled to Paris on the regular air line. They stayed the first three nights at the Lancaster Hotel, off the Champs-Élysées



A TANK COVERS THE LANDING OPERATIONS AFTER "SWIMMING" ASHORE: This method of bringing in armour was developed during the Pacific War and employed with some success against the Japanese in island landings. The canvas covering, when fully inflated, provides a surprising amount of buoyancy. This picture, and the others on these pages, was taken at Portsmouth during "Exercise Eastney," an exercise in combined operations held in the presence of officers attending the Staff College at Camberley and organised by the Amphibious School

THE SECRET AGENT ADDED A COMIC TOUCH TO THE PORTSMOUTH EXERCISES: *Left*—He is seen being put ashore from a landing-craft, every effort being made to save him getting his feet wet. *Right*—Having clothed himself in straw hat and blazer he sets out to destroy shore installations in advance of the landing force. His bold assault on the hostile shore won enthusiastic applause from Staff College officers who gathered on the beach to watch the landings

THIS INFLATABLE CANOE HOLDS THREE MEN AND 100 LB. OF STORES: The boat, which is carried by submarine or aircraft, was among the exhibits specially suited to amphibious operations



COMBINED OPERATIONS 1949 VERSION

A Staff College Exercise at Portsmouth Indicates the Latest Developments

Men of the Navy, the Marines and the Army co-operated in the recent Portsmouth exercises to show just how far advanced is the present-day technique of combined operations. It seems a far cry to those days at Inveraray in the midst of the war when Lord Keyes and, later, "Admiral-General-Air Marshal" Mountbatten conducted the first landings of artillery, infantry and specialist units. Inveraray taught us a great deal about amphibious assaults, but it was as nothing to the lessons learnt the hard way on the beaches of Dieppe, Salerno, Anzio and Normandy. To-day those experiences have resulted in a well-developed assault technique, and it was this crystallised knowledge that was put before officers from Camberley when they attended the Portsmouth exercises. The exercises were staged with a high degree of realism ... at least one touch of light relief when ... secret agent came ashore with his ... case full of high explosives. The ... was given by the Amphibious ... maintained by the Portsmouth ... of the Royal Marines under the ... of Major-General Leech Porter. ... the spectators was Lieut.-General ... G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command. ... graphs hardly do justice to the ... the instruction given. Members ... Staff College and other spectators ... how beach-development parties do ... work and how a landing-place ... steadily transformed by special ... with special functions and ... apparatus. The whole demonstration ... convincing proof of the present ... degree of inter-Service co-operation.

LAUNCHING CRAFT FOR CANOES: Staff officers inspecting an Interm... Transport Carrier. This is designed to save assault troops from ... distance paddling. Canoes can be speedily and silently launched ... the stern in shallow water when the moment for assault ...

THE ASSAULT GOES IN AT THE START OF "EXERCISE EASTNEY": Infantry landing from assault craft on an exposed beach. In this perilous moment it is presumed that a concentration of fire from ships at sea is holding down the enemy ground forces and that planes co-operating with the infantry have laid a heavy smoke-screen over the entire area chosen for the assault. During the Dieppe landings one of the tragedies of the assault was the fact that the element of surprise was lost and that the smoke-screen was not effective. In the centre of this picture can be seen a Bren gunner, and his No. 2, carrying ammunition, is 10 yards farther down the beach

SHERMAN TANKS WITH THEIR INFLATABLE WATERPROOF COVERINGS LANDING ON AN ENEMY SHORE: Only their pennants and their turret tops could be seen above the waterproof sides, but the moment these were lowered the gunners were ready for action and to engage ground targets as directed by the infantry they were supporting

KEEPING TRACK OF RED ATOMICS

The Russians will not be Generous with Their Top Secrets

By FERDINAND TUOHY

APPROXIMATELY 1,200 men will this month be engaged in the hunt for uranium on the Colorado Plateau. It doesn't sound a lot for what has been called "America's Atomic El Dorado." Nor is it; the reason being that miners feel the reward to be insufficient in view of all the expense and effort involved in finding and digging up the elusive fission-able material known as carnotite-type vanadium-uranium ore.

It costs a man £1,100 to equip himself properly with jeep, Geiger counter, camping equipment, digging tools and explosives, whereupon he finds that uranium is an unpredictable ore, and scarce, and positively imprisoned by State regulations. Above all of that, he is obsessed by being in competition with African miners in the Belgian Congo, whose ore is known to be nearly 240 times richer than his own.

He is lucky if he gets £6 for every ton of the right "pay-dirt" that he mines, whereas over there, in Central Africa, a similar ton would bring him . . . but it doesn't bear thinking about.

In Utah, the same handicap. There are high hopes of British Columbia, Manitoba and Alberta. But their richness of content? No other corners of the Western Hemisphere are thus far yielding uranium on a paying basis.

Texas? Alaska? Australia? South Africa? There are indications in a variety of places. Also in France (Limoges), Sardinia, Morocco, West and East Africa. But it all comes down to the Katanga mines of the Belgian Congo, which are believed to contain as much as 80 per cent. of the world's supply of uranium, and whether they do or not, squarely dominate the raw material picture in one of the two opposing camps.

Since the announcement that Russia "has the bomb," experts have set to charting anew what her resources of uranium may be. Henceforward it will be imperative to find out everything humanly possible on this score. There are only two ways of assessing the Soviet Union's capacity for waging atomic warfare, and this is one of them. The other is by trying to keep abreast of Russia's manufacturing capabilities. Apparently we may expect to know each time she makes an atomic explosion, but that won't tell us fundamentals.

The Atlantic Allies helped the Soviet's manufacturing along nicely. They gave much information away and thereby expedited the Russian production of the atom bomb. Some eighteen months ago a ten-page report by Dr. Harvey, of the Canadian Atomic Energy Section, gave in detail the method of making the essential A-bomb element, plutonium. Earlier, the United States Government had released the Smyth Report, revealing the manufacturing secrets of Uranium 235. Scientific journals presented other plums. Nor was this all.

The Russians were able to pick the brains of German scientists who had worked feverishly throughout the war to give Hitler the bomb in time. Whether they later learned anything from being ideologically united with scientists interested in atomic research in the West is just one of those enigmas. Thirdly, and from the standpoint of their "Intelligence" ears and eyes, the Russians were able to operate in a singular atmosphere over in post-war America.

The point to be made is that we others are going to receive no such smiles from Fortune. Everything has been top secret with Stalin, and so it will remain, if he can keep it so. The most we have heard has been of big monetary awards to Soviet atomic scientists. Should we have heard of this bomb if Czech Ministers returning from Moscow had not spoken out of turn? We'd have picked it up, yes, but that is different.

There has been a tendency to regard the huge American bill as one means of computing what the Russians may be able to do. What Mr. Truman called "a race of discovery against the Germans . . . the greatest scientific gamble in history" cost £500,000,000 and led to the employment of nearly 100,000 people, and to the birth of a new town at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

How much it now costs to produce two bombs a week is kept a secret, but it is known that the Americans have two huge plants in Tennessee for the manufacture of the isotype U 235, and three immense chain reacting piles at Hanford, Washington (Pacific), with chemical separating plants for each.

To build a bomb you must construct either an Oak Ridge or a Hanford. You may construct both. The Russians may have done so. Reliable Free Czech information says they have three atomic plants, only one of which is functioning 100 per cent. Where these plants are, and what is their size, *i.e.* their rate of production—such things are wrapped in darkness.

Less reliable reports tell of three atom towns in Central Asia, one of which, Atomgrad, in Turkestan, is presented as an underground "city," working and sleeping.

Whatever the position, it is useless to seek the scale of Soviet achievement on the premise that the Russians cannot afford what the Americans could and can. The Russians have endless slave labour to fall back upon, and are known to be using it both to come by Red uranium and to turn it to atomic account. If anything should hold them up on the manufacturing side, it is more likely to be difficulty in making, assembling and using the mammoth yet intricate machinery.

The Czechs are again our most useful guide when we pass to building up a picture of Red uranium sources. First-hand evidence is available concerning the degree to which the Russians are bearing upon the Bohemian uranium field, which extends over the Erzgebirge into Saxony, and it is convincing quite a number of persons well qualified to judge that, whatever other fields she may have access to, here in the ex-Sudetenland, 50 to 100 miles from Prague, lies Russia's present principal hope of atomic raw material for bomb or industry.

The whole enterprise is called the Bismuth Company, Ltd., with headquarters at Freiberg, on the German side (it reminds one of the "Society of Sea Bathing" for the Monte Carlo gambling concession). Between 40,000 and 50,000 workers are employed on the German side. Conditions are such that there is a strong element of compulsion. Notably, young men aiming at the universities are given the option of the mines or the "people's police." Young women of technical bent are roped in for the former.

That new mines are being constantly opened up, is no pointer to success. It may indeed be a case of the exact contrary; hence ever more burrowing. What is demonstrable is that the richer (or less impoverished) seams lie on the Czech side of the frontier, in an extensive area reaching as far south as ex-Carlsbad, and whose principal mining region is Jachymov, 70 miles west of Prague.

After the Nazi seizure of Czechoslovakia in 1939, the mines on the German side of the Erzgebirge were no longer worked by the Germans. They found it paid better to draw on the uranium supplies on the Czech side, and if this were not sufficient indication, the Russians are now doing the same thing in a different way.

They have had entire control of the Czech fields since the Gottwald *coup d'état* of February 1948. But they do not feel they have the same control over ore brought up in Czechoslovakia as they have when it is brought up in Germany. Moreover, in the former case the Russians are supposed to pay the Czechs for the ore taken away. So what have the Stalin boys done but drive tunnels from the German side, through which they are taking much uranium mined in Czechoslovakia to the surface in Germany.

The Czech-side mines are Russia's best bet in Europe, and maybe for a long way beyond it. Alone they could explain the dead set against Benes and Masaryk: the Russians wanted at all hazards to come in. These mines are better equipped and easier to work than over in Saxony. And to-day they are swarming with a variety of labour, relatively few Czechs, many thousand Germans employed as forced labour, Rumanians, Hungarians, and a special detachment of miners from the Caucasas.

Such store do the Russians put on the Czech field that they are urging the Czechs to take back former Sudeten Germans for work in the mines there. Nearly 3,000,000 were thrown out, and fine material some of them would be. But, so far, even Gottwald has not been able to swallow that one.

Where else are the Russians mining the requisite uranium ore?

If ever a proper international control should come, it would need to range regularly as far as Eastern Siberia and Chinese Siankiang Province. What a task! From the Afghanistan border (where stockpiling is reported) to Lake Baikal, from Turkestan to the Arctic fringes, the controlling bodies would require to journey, not once, but time and again, so as to check the amount of atomic raw material the Russians might be digging up for processing.

In January's issue of *Science* magazine, Harvard's Dr. Shimkin gave the results of a uranium-prospecting trip that he made through Russian geological literature up to the point when a ban was placed on mining revelations in 1944. The best find was in the Fergana Valley of Central Asia, 200 miles east of Tashkent, capital of Turkestan. Apparently the Fergana Valley is shot through and through with uranium deposits resembling those of Colorado.

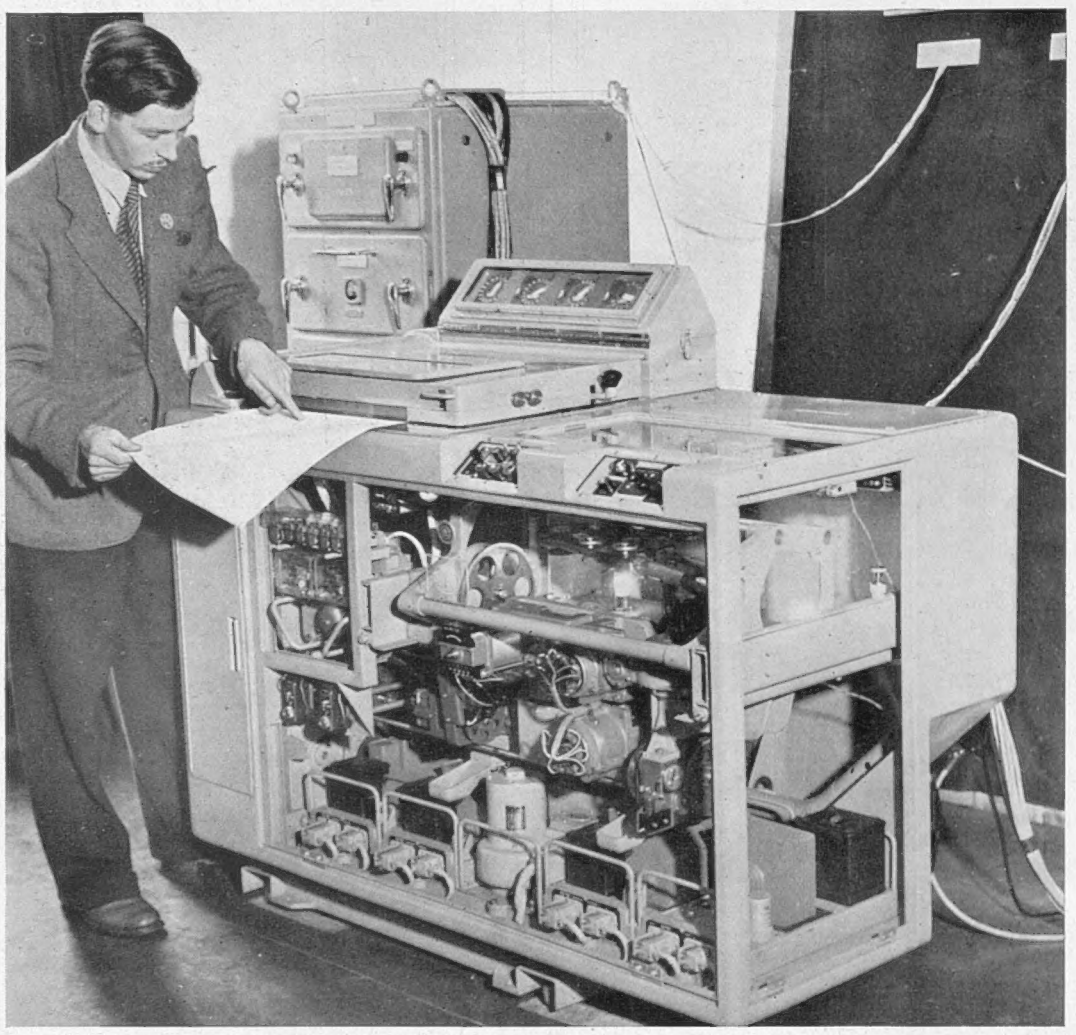
Another promising uranium region is the Khamar-Daban Range, near Lake Baikal, possibly extending to the Aldan goldfields. The position in Eastern Siberia was a closed book to Dr. Shimkin, and so it remains. But he found excellent indications of uranium in the Ukraine, lying close to Russia's oldest industrial centres west of Kharkov. All the same, he banks on the Fergana.

But do the Russians have call on a Katanga or anything like it? One takes leave to doubt it. Not alone on account of the intense Erzgebirge concentration, but because of Russia's pushing and striving for uranium thousands of miles outside even her huge carcase.

One further source possibly lies open to the Russians. The black market. I do not refer to minute quantities of uranium being peddled for fantastic sums, chiefly in Switzerland. This stuff may be smuggled out of the Erzgebirge or over from America. Rather a different matter is the possibility of a Nazi stockpile surviving hidden away somewhere.

Earlier this year nine Germans were arrested in the American Zone for attempting to sell 2,800 grams of radio-active uranium. They were asking over £1,000,000 (Cripps devaluation rate). Where did they get it? They were vague, pretended to be mere vendors on behalf of unknowns.

Said the Americans: "We do not know whether it came from the Nazis' wartime stockpile or not—or whether the Nazis even had a stockpile. But German scientists tell us the Nazis had about 4,600 grams." If so, and if the uranium found on the arrested men came from that stockpile, then half of the stockpile is still missing. It could, of course, have been far larger than the German scientists say.



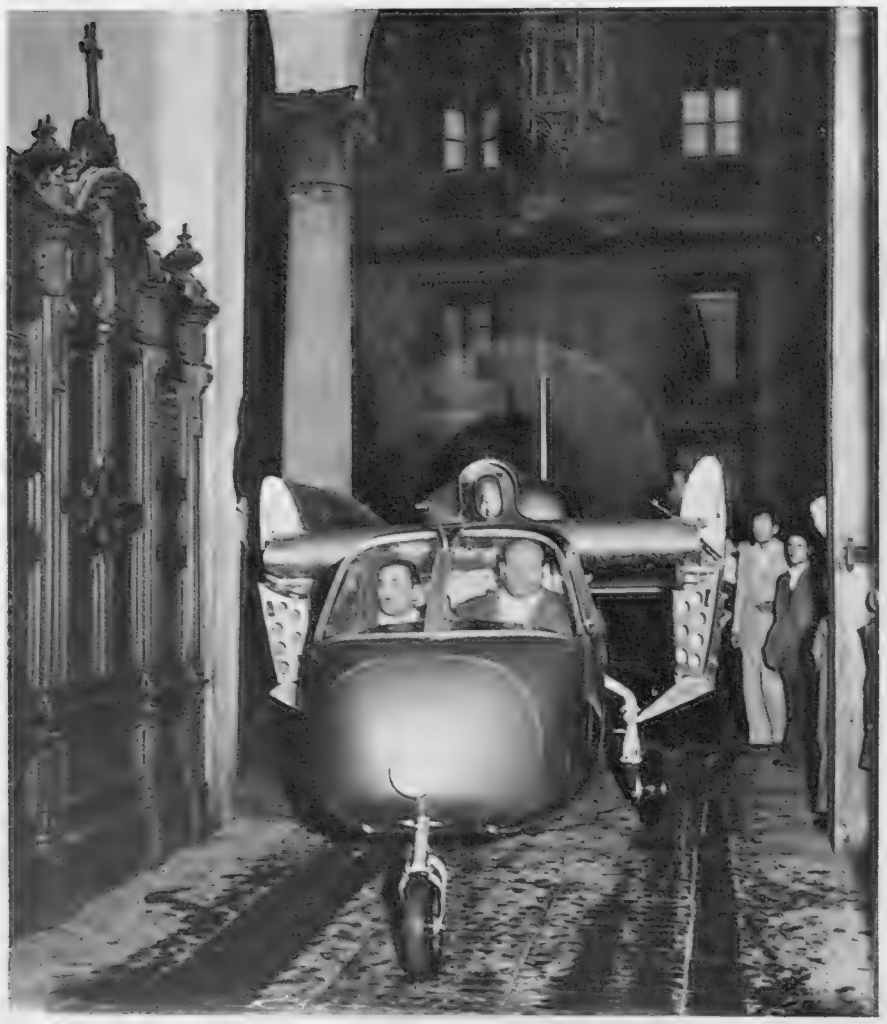
THIS NEW RADAR PLOTTER PLOTS THE TRACK OF MORTAR BOMBS, THUS MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO LOCATE ENEMY MORTAR POSITIONS: Mr. Terence Courtney, of Malvern Wells, working with the new equipment at the Radar Research and Development Establishment in Worcestershire. The equipment has lately been on view at an exhibition opened by Mr. G. R. Strauss, Minister of Supply, and to which the general public is admitted. This plotter would, of course, prove of vital importance in infantry warfare, and with the co-operation of the artillery it would be only a matter of seconds between a mortar position being identified and artillery bringing to bear a deadly concentration upon the selected spot

THE WEDDING GROUP TAKEN DURING THE RECEPTION AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE: The bride and bridegroom with Her Majesty Queen Mary, the Princess Royal, His Majesty the King, the Hon. Gerald Lascelles, brother of the Earl of Harewood and groomsman, and Her Majesty the Queen. The King and Queen made an all-night journey from Balmoral in order to be present at the wedding. They returned to Scotland after the reception, travelling by the night express

THE WEDDING GROUP AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE

The King and Queen with the Bride and Groom

On left—**THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM WITH THEIR PARENTS**: The bride, in her elegant white brocade gown, and carrying in her hand a cascading crescent of gardenias, white butterfly orchids and lilies-of-the-valley, is seen with the Earl of Harewood, the Princess Royal, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Stein. The reception at St. James's Palace was attended by nearly 1,000 guests. Silver crotchets and quavers adorned the massive 1½-cwt. wedding cake



THE LATEST VERSION OF THE FLYING MOTOR-CAR: The invention of the Milanese engineer Signor Pellarini, a machine which is said to be equally at home on the road and in the air, arriving at the Palace of Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan, where the distinguished churchman gave it his blessing. The Pellarini flying motor-car, which is making a tour of European cities, is powered by an American Continental motor giving a speed of 120 m.p.h. in the air and 60 m.p.h. on the road. It weighs about 1,000 lb. and its total wing-span is only just over 32 ft. The length of the fuselage is 19 ft. 10 ins. Several machines of a similar type have been developed since the war, and probably the most successful to date has been the amphibian designed and built by Robert Fulton, Jnr., of Continental Incorporated, a descendant of the Robert Fulton who, in the Napoleonic Wars, brought out a submarine which Napoleon nearly used as a weapon against Britain. Mr. Fulton's flying car has detachable wings, whereas Signor Pellarini's model has folding wings and is more speedily converted

THE INSULANER, A NEW TYPE OF AMPHIBIOUS MOTOR-CAR: Herr Munch, a Berlin engineer, has developed this remarkable vehicle which is seen embarking on its initial tests on the Havel Lake, near Pichelsdorf. In these tests the Insulaner is said to have reached a speed of over 40 m.p.h. in the water and over 75 m.p.h. on land. Herr Munch declares that his car is quite capable of a Channel crossing, and it is possible that he will attempt to come to England next summer. Large tanks fore and aft contribute to the buoyancy of the craft

CARS WHICH FLY AND CARS WHICH FLOAT

Curiosities of the World of Mechanics, and Some Recent Aviation News

THE INSULANER ON THE WATERS OF THE HAVEL: Herr Munch's amphibious car in action during tests at Pichelsdorf, near Berlin. The car has taken six months to build. It incorporates many lessons learnt during the war, when the sealing of vehicles for amphibious landings became a very well-developed technique

CARDINAL SCHUSTER INSPECTS THE FLYING MOTOR-CAR: The Cardinal Archbishop is seen outside his Palace as he came to give Signor Pellarini's invention his blessing. Through the open door can be seen the simple arrangement of controls

THE NEW NAVAL ANTI-SUBMARINE AIRCRAFT NOW COMES OFF THE SECRET LIST: The Blackburn Y A 5 represents an important addition to Britain's air offensive power at sea. This machine is powered by a Rolls-Royce Griffon engine, but later aircraft of this type will have propeller-turbine power units. The Rolls-Royce Griffon engine is one of the largest piston engines now in service. It may be regarded in many ways as a scaled-up Merlin, and is used in the Avro Shackleton and the Vickers-Armstrong Seagull

THE BRITISH JET FIGHTERS WHICH CAME TO GRIEF ON THEIR "SHOWING-THE-FLAG" TRIP FROM THEIR MIDDLE-EASTERN R.A.F. BASE TO ITALY: The five fighters seen on the airport at Rome after completing the hop from Malta. They were due to appear at the Turin International Fair, but on the flight from Rome to Milan four of them were damaged when compelled to make forced landings at an unused airstrip a few miles from Brescia. One pilot baled out and fractured a leg in landing. There was a second mishap when one of the planes sent from the Middle East to replace the wrecked planes damaged a wing when touching-down in Rome

TWO OF THE VAMPIRES WHICH MADE FORCED LANDINGS AFTER OVERRUNNING THE NARROW AIRSTRIP AT BRESCIA: *Left*—This machine was only halted when it hit a bank, the pilot's cockpit protruding between two trees. It was the most badly damaged of the Vampires. *Right*—The machine which went into the river after crashing through the surrounding foliage. The Vampire, put on the drawing-board in 1942, has proved one of Britain's most successful fighters as an export product

THE FAIREY 17, ANOTHER NAVAL ANTI-SUBMARINE AIRCRAFT NOW OFF THE SECRET LIST: This mid-wing monoplane has an Armstrong-Siddeley Double Mamba propeller-turbine power unit. The Double Mamba is a combination of two separate and distinct Mamba engines, each with its own fuel, lubrication and control systems and its own reduction gear. Each drives one of two contra-rotating co-axial propellers. One advantage to be derived from combining two Mambas is that of low fuel consumption

THE FUEL GOES, BUT THE TANKS STAY WITH THE PLANE: A Grumman Panther aircraft of the United States Navy jettisoning fuel from tanks housed in the wing-tips. This method of jettisoning is obviously infinitely preferable to dropping entire tanks to gain speed or manœuvrability. As the fuel streams out behind it quickly evaporates. The two tanks can be emptied in forty seconds when the machine is at speed. Apparently there is no danger of an explosion

COMMEMORATING THE EXPLOITS OF RUSSIA'S GREAT MILITARY HERO OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY : The Metropolitan of the Russian Orthodox Church in Paris, surrounded by Swiss patriarchs, as he conducted the service in the Schollenen Ravine of the Gotthard Pass before the memorial erected to General Alexander Suvarov, who 150 years ago led an army 10,000 strong over the Gotthard Pass into Switzerland. This March in 1799, which followed Suvarov's emergence from retirement, marked the end of his career, for he proved no match for the forces of the French Revolution and he was thrown back into Austria. A year later he died at St. Petersburg. Suvarov made his reputation in campaigns against the Poles and the Turks. He was constantly in the field and consistently successful

MAOTSE IN HIS NEW CAPITAL : The Chinese Communist leader with his Commander-in-Chief, General Chuh Teh (right), greeting army officers at a rally in Peiping. At the end of September the Plenary Session of the People's Political Consultative Conference, which is establishing a Central Government for all Communist China, held its fourth meeting in Peiping. General Chuh Teh told delegates on that occasion that the People's Liberation Army would not rest until it had liberated all China, Formosa, Hainan and Tibet. Significantly, he did not make specific mention of either Hong Kong or Sinkiang. His announcement coincided with the march of three Communist armies into Kwangtung Province. China's Communists are also engaged at the moment in an intensive drive to win friends for Soviet Russia, and all over Communist-held territory in China the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association is steadily gaining adherents. Madame Sun-Yat-Sen is active in the movement

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF MALTA ARRIVES IN THE GEORGE CROSS ISLAND : Sir Gerald Creasy (left) shaking hands with Professor Denobo, Speaker of Malta's Legislative Assembly, on his arrival to take up office. In the centre is Malta's Chief Justice, Sir George Borg

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

A Record of the Foreign News in Pictures

A BOMBED BRIDGE WHICH ONCE SPANNED THE RIVER SPREE, IN THE BRITISH SECTOR OF BERLIN, IS CUT INTO SUITABLE LENGTHS FOR TRANSPORT BY BARGE TO THE SMELTING FURNACES : Allied bombs have brought Germany a thriving post-war business in scrap steel. Out of the rubble of their big cities, Germans are digging twisted and rusted beams and girders worth millions. Britain is one of the biggest buyers. Her contract calls for 600,000 tons before the end of the year. Germany will be paid £2,700,000. Most of it comes from the British and American Zones, and is being recovered at the rate of more than 1,000 tons a day. Erwin Schneier, salvage director in West Berlin, estimates that 100,000 tons have been recovered in his city, and says there is probably twice as much still to be had from the ruins

THESE MILITARY POLICE HOLD A WATCHING BRIEF : To prevent the Soviet seizure of railway equipment from the American Sector, American Military Police and Berlin West Sector Police were recently rushed to the elevated railway station at Buckowerstreet in time to prevent five freight cars loaded with equipment from being removed. Six freight cars loaded with axles had already been seized by the Russian-controlled railway police. Although the Berlin railway system is considered part of the Soviet system and is under their control, the railway authorities have been told they cannot remove equipment, and to enforce the declaration Military Policemen remained at the station on guard. The Press photographer taking this picture was ordered off the station by Soviet police, but the American Military Police intervened, and allowed him to remain

HELPING TO TACKLE ISRAEL'S FORMIDABLE HOUSING PROBLEM : This "gun" concrete-mixer, imported from the United States, is being used in conjunction with transportable moulds for the high-speed building of homes. By this method the walls of six houses can be poured in a single day. The mixer can be moved from place to place with little difficulty, being equipped with two pneumatic tyres

THE SEVEN MEN WHO STRAYED INTO ISRAELI HANDS : Five soldiers of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, a Polish-born gunner and a marine, all members of the British Garrison at Akaba, being escorted to a plane at Lydda Airport, Israel, on being extradited. They were flown from Lydda to Cyprus and from Cyprus to the Canal Zone. The men were interned after straying into Israeli hands across the border

HENRY BLACKMER RETURNS TO PAY HIS ACCOUNT : Mr. Blackmer (left), now eighty years old and a multi-millionaire, fled from the United States twenty-five years ago, presumably to avoid testifying in the Teapot Dome Oil scandal. He is seen in this picture with his son and his attorney as he appeared at the Court House, Denver, Colorado, where he will now face indictment. If convicted he may receive a maximum gaol sentence of four years and a fine of £10,000. All other charges, including charges of perjury, have been dropped, Mr. Blackmer having paid 3,500,000 dollars in fines, penalties and back income-tax. The Teapot Dome Oil scandal, it may be remembered, involved people in high places in the administration of President Warren Harding. It was found that enormous oil contracts and oil concessions in Wyoming and California were given out by the Secretary of the Interior to the advantage of a ring

HENRY BLACKMER ARRIVES AT DENVER'S FEDERAL COURT BUILDING : The multi-millionaire, who has returned from the French Riviera "to pay his account to the American Government," with his daughter, Mrs. Kistler. Mrs. Kistler is well known in Denver social circles

MARSHAL TITO IN CAREFREE MOOD : The Yugoslavian leader at the White Castle, Belgrade, with a group of Yugoslavian coal-miners on whom he conferred decorations for achieving record output in the mines. On the right is Alija Sirotanovitch, who has broken all records for individual output in the coalfields. Despite the threats against Marshal Tito's life, he is now seen in Belgrade more frequently. During the summer he spent much time on Brioni

VICTIMS OF THE ATHENS FLOODS : Torrential rain caused great havoc in Athens at the end of September, and this family was one of many whose homes were inundated. They are seen spreading their belongings out to dry. For several hours the streets of the Greek capital were turned into rushing torrents, and over 150 houses in the poorer districts collapsed. Only one life was lost in the floods

A VALLEY FROM WHICH ALL CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN EVACUATED: This view, taken from the hillside north-west of Steeple, and looking south-west towards Tyneham and Worbarrow Bay, stands in the area of Lulworth Cove and the Purbeck Hills, once regarded as one of the great beauty spots of Southern England. To-day it presents for the most part a sad picture of devastation, owing to its continuing use as a tank-gunnery range. Before the war about 1,000 acres were used, but now about 8,500 acres are used, including the Domesday village of Tyneham, Bindon Hall, Flowers Barrow and Tyneham House, all scheduled as ancient monuments. Everywhere are to be seen notices, in the boldest type, bearing such words as "Danger—Battle Range, Keep Out," and "Danger—There are Bombs and Unexploded Shells Inside—They Can Kill You"

ENGLAND'S THREATENED HERITAGE

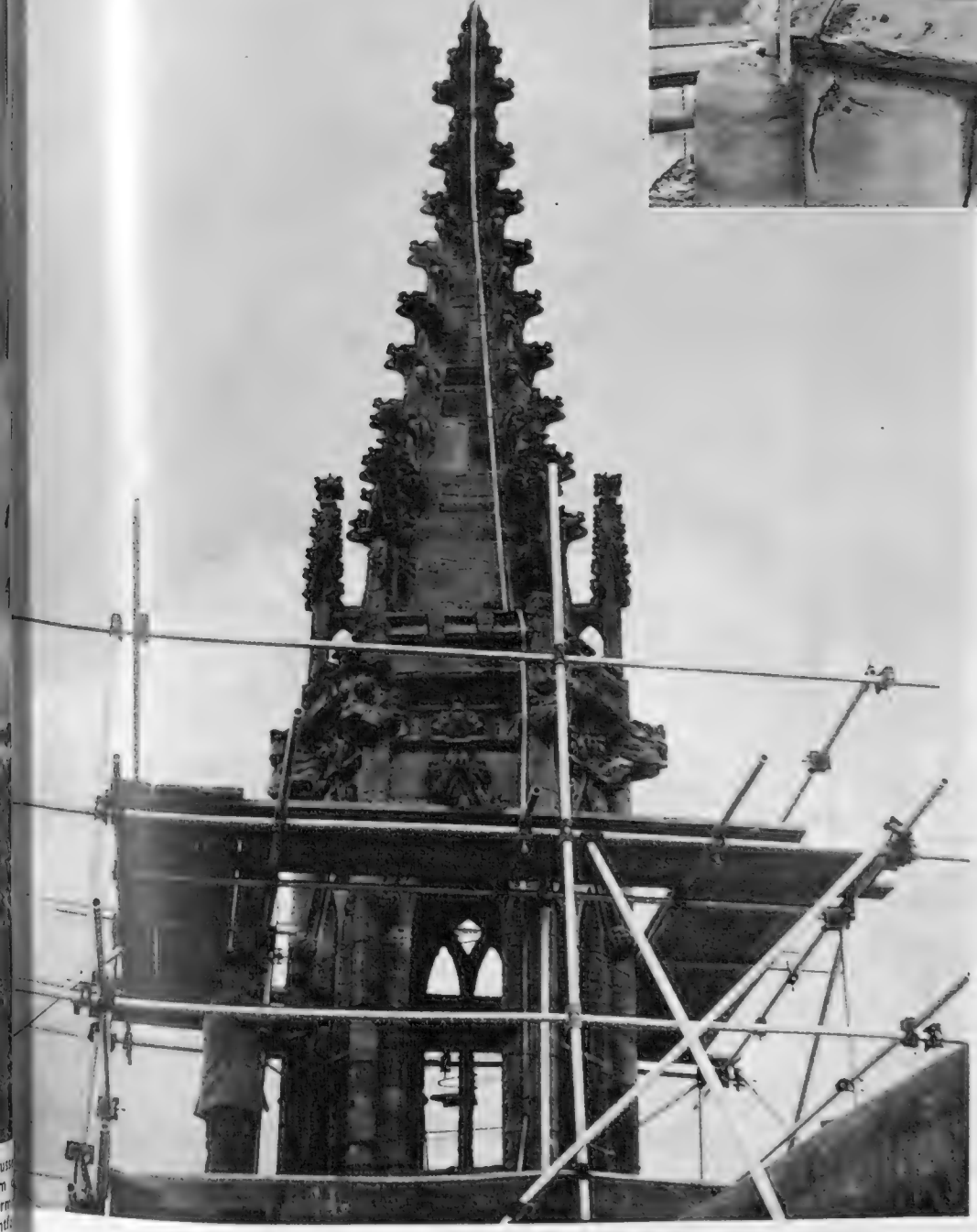
The Fate of the Lulworth Area as an Artillery Range: Repairing Lewes Castle and Worcester Cathedral

REPAIRS TO THE THIRTEENTH-CENTURY TOWER OF LEWES CASTLE: Scaffolding surrounding the fortress which is being renovated at a cost of about £5,000 by the Sussex Archæological Society. Lewes Castle, which commands fine views of the Downs, is said to have been founded by King Alfred and to have been rebuilt by William de Warenne shortly after the Norman Conquest. The keep and gateways were presented to the nation in 1920. The castle guarded the pass through the Downs formed by the Valley of the Ouse. Lewes was the scene of the battle fought on May 14, 1264, between the troops of Henry III and those of the barons under Simon de Montfo

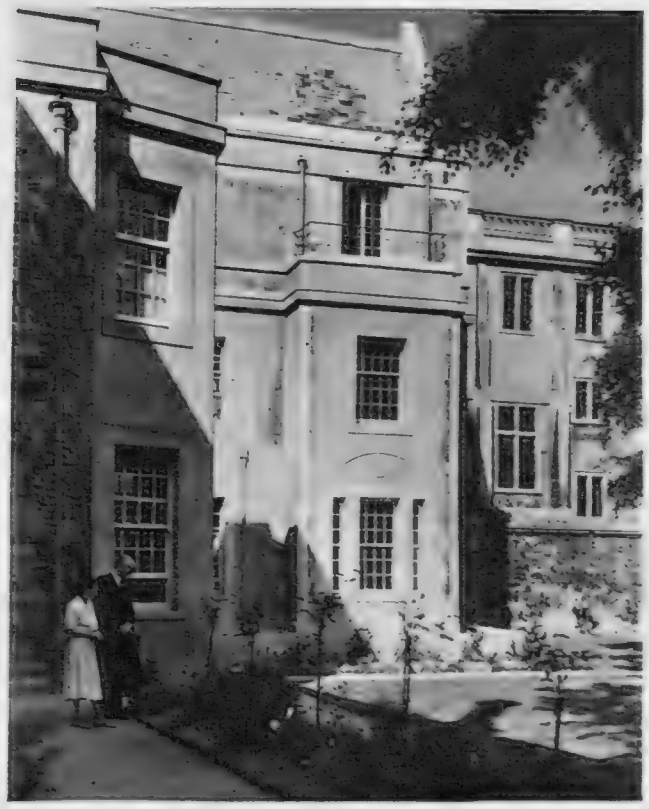
THE DESERTED VILLAGE : Some of the picturesque houses of Tyneham, in the Lulworth Cove area of woodlands and heath, which is being retained as a tank-gunnery range by the War Office. Cottage gardens and farmyards are overgrown, roadways are choked with weeds, and the whole picture is one of desolation

WARNING TO THE CURIOUS : Two of the many notices advising civilians of the dangers of wandering in the East Lulworth area, where the tank artillery range is situated

On right and below — THE EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO WORCESTER CATHEDRAL : The south-west pinnacle, which has been in danger of collapse, is seen (below) surrounded by scaffolding as the work of restoration is put in hand. The picture inset on the right shows a ruler in position over an area from which part of an upright jamb has been worn away. The pinnacle is at the moment supported by a band of steel wire in order to keep it together during repairs. The full seriousness of the situation became known during the summer months when the long spell of extreme heat caused iron clamps holding the tracery together to corrode and swell, cracking it and lifting the 40 tons of solid stone above



PALMER'S TOWER, THE ANCIENT NORTH GATEWAY TO EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD : A new staircase has lately been completed within the Tower and access to the college rooms is now very much easier. At the same time the Rector's Lodging has also been rebuilt



THE REMODELLED EAST AND SOUTH FRONT OF THE RECTOR'S LODGING AT EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD : The new building, with Georgian windows, blends with the adjoining Old Ashmolean, which is seen on the right. The former Rector's Lodging was no antiquity. It was a mansion in the neo-Gothic style designed by Sir Gilbert Scott in the '50's of the last century. The kitchen and other domestic offices were in the basement, above which were four lofty floors topped by several rather nondescript attics

GROWTH OF A SATELLITE TOWN

The Progress of the Hemel Hempstead Project

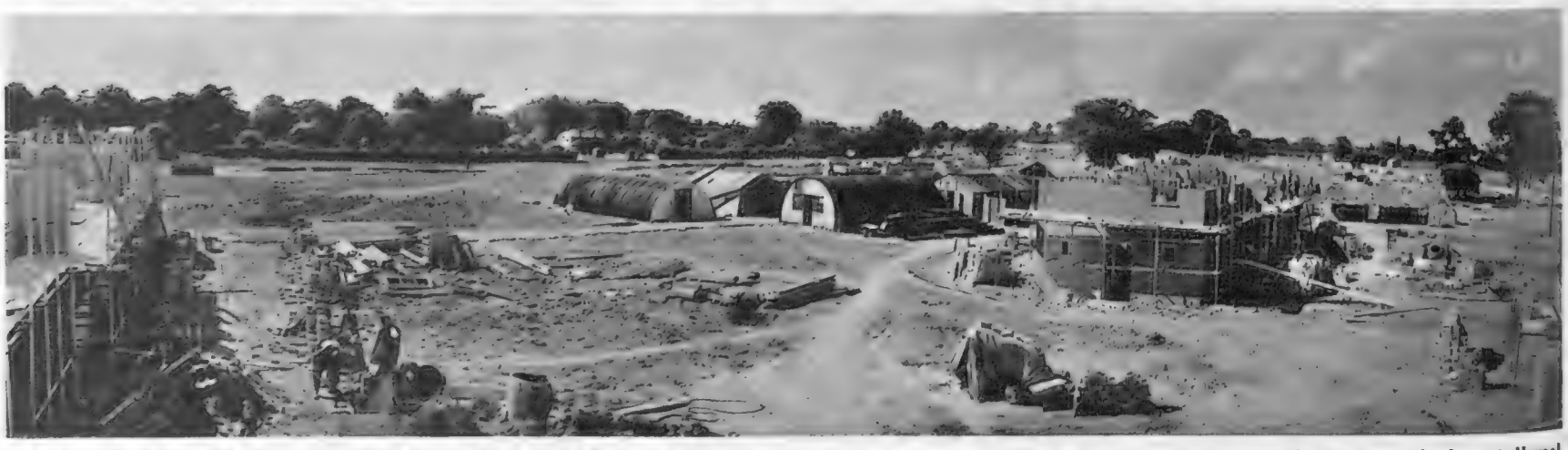
An appeal in the High Court on July 30, brought by residents of Hemel Hempstead against the Ministry of Town and Country Planning's order for the compulsory purchase of land for the new satellite town, was dismissed by Mr. Justice Morris. Since then the planning of this new town, which together with Harlow, Crawley and Stevenage, will help to relieve London's congestion, has been going ahead with all speed, and now actual building operations are in progress at Hemel Hempstead. The town already has a population of 21,000 inhabitants, and the idea is to incorporate the old-world characteristics of Hemel Hempstead's High Street into the new satellite. In eighteen months' time it is probable that building will go forward at the rate of 600 houses a year. It will take twenty years to complete the new town.

THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW SATELLITE TOWN : Houses under construction at Hemel Hempstead, Herts, which in the space of twenty years will rise in population from 21,000 to 60,000. The construction of the first new shops and factories is scheduled to start next year

WHERE THE HEMEL HEMPSTEAD LABOUR FORCE IS BEING ACCOMMODATED : Some of the huts occupied by the men who have begun building operations at the satellite town. It is hoped to build up the labour force to a total of 3,000 when the work is in full progress

TERRACE HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE SATELLITE TOWN : Current shortages of building material have tended to delay the programme, and as in the past the principal "bottle-neck" is in the supply of building timber. There have been similar delays at Harlow

A NEW ROAD COMES INTO BEING : Men preparing a sub-base for a road through the new area. The plans for Hemel Hempstead were revealed some time ago at the "Hemel Hempstead Shows the Way Exhibition"



ANCIENT TREES WILL ADD TO THE BEAUTY OF THIS NEW RESIDENTIAL AREA : The architects have attempted to incorporate natural features in the general plan at Hemel Hempstead. Wartime Nissen huts provide a headquarters for those in charge of the project

BRISTOL'S NEW AND FLORAL AIR

The West Country City in the Midst of Post-war Replanning

REBEAUTIFYING THE HEART OF BRISTOL: The ugly car park, which, with air-raid shelters, existed in the centre of the city for nearly ten years, has now been swept away and these pleasant gardens, lately a riot of colour, now greet the eye. Bristolians are justly proud of the transformation. It has been decided that there shall be no seats along the paths of these formal gardens, as they tend to attract litter. The shrubs and plants reared at Blaise Castle (in the grounds of the Bristol Folk Museum) are to be labelled. Neptune's statue now stands on the bridgehead in the distance. This centre has been planned as a memorial to George V, and the strip of water was covered in in 1939 when the work began

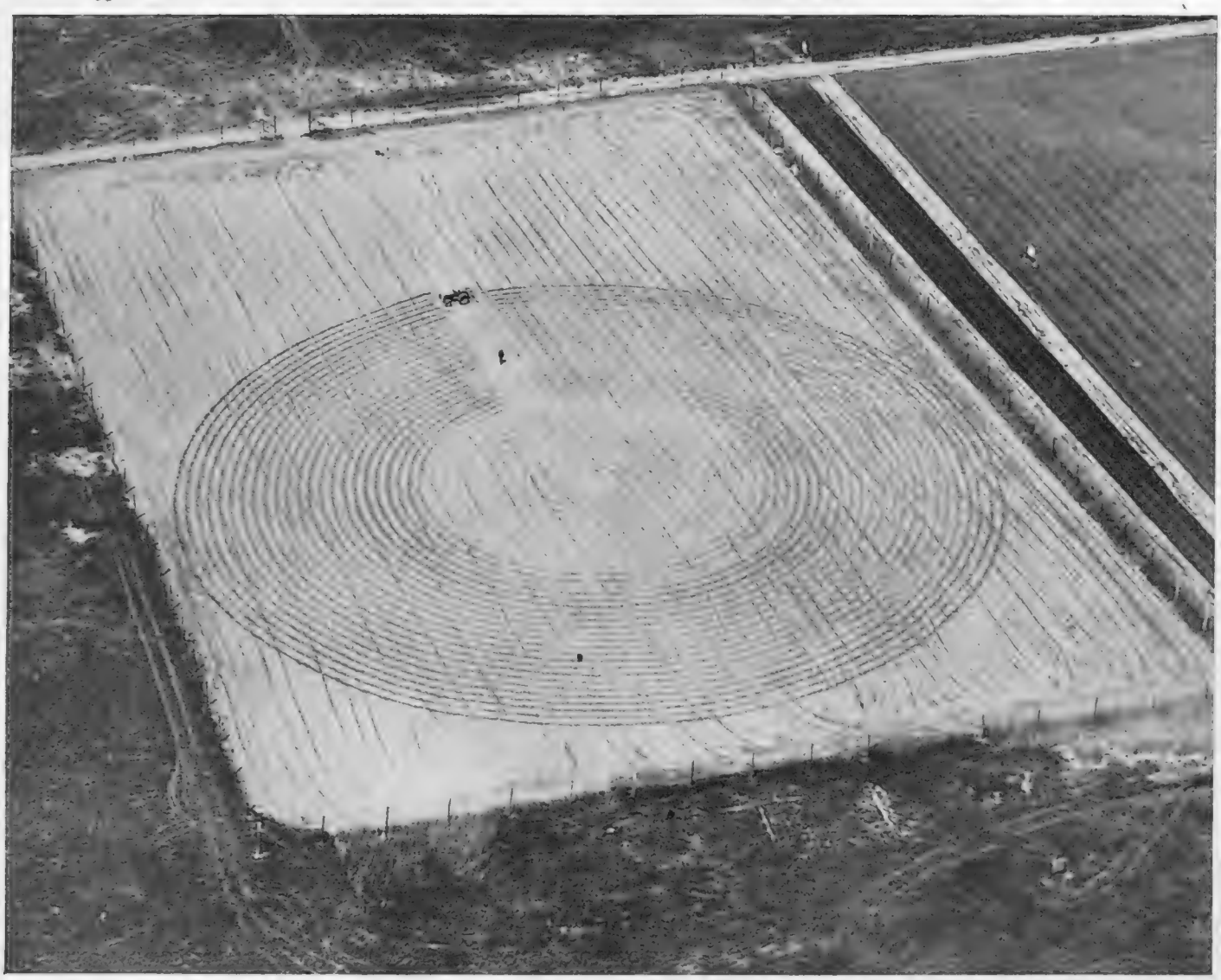
WHERE BRISTOL'S NEW RESERVOIR IS TO BE BROUGHT INTO BEING: *Top and below*—The River Chew and Knowle Hill Farm in the area which is to be flooded to provide the city with additional water. The Ministry of Health has authorised work to start on the Chew Stoke Reservoir. Nine farms and seventeen dwellings will have to be vacated under the scheme, and occupiers will be rehoused elsewhere. Knowle Hill Farm, it is understood, will be above the waterline. Although valuable agricultural land is affected, farmers in North Somerset will benefit by an increase in water supplies. Bath, Frome and Shepton Mallet will all receive water from the reservoir. At the moment Bristol obtains much of its water from nearby Blagdon, an artificial lake also situated on the northern slopes of the Mendips and a place of great natural beauty. Chew Stoke and Blagdon are between 8 and 10 miles from the centre of Bristol. Blagdon is a great haunt of fishermen

SHALL PARK STREET BE DOUBLED IN WIDTH? This is the question on which Bristolians are anxiously awaiting a decision. Bristol Corporation Planning Committee supports the Whitehall plan to widen the famous shopping thoroughfare. Opponents of the scheme say it will be an architectural catastrophe, as the Oatley Tower of the University, at the top of the hill, was sited to provide this effective view. Many buildings on the west side of Park Street (on left) were blitzed

LOOKING FROM THE CENTRE GARDENS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGE GREEN: Dominating the view is the celebrated Neptune statue, which has stood in several positions in the city since it was cast at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Once it bore a false inscription, based on local legend, stating that it was set up to mark the defeat of the Armada

PATTERNS ON THE LAND

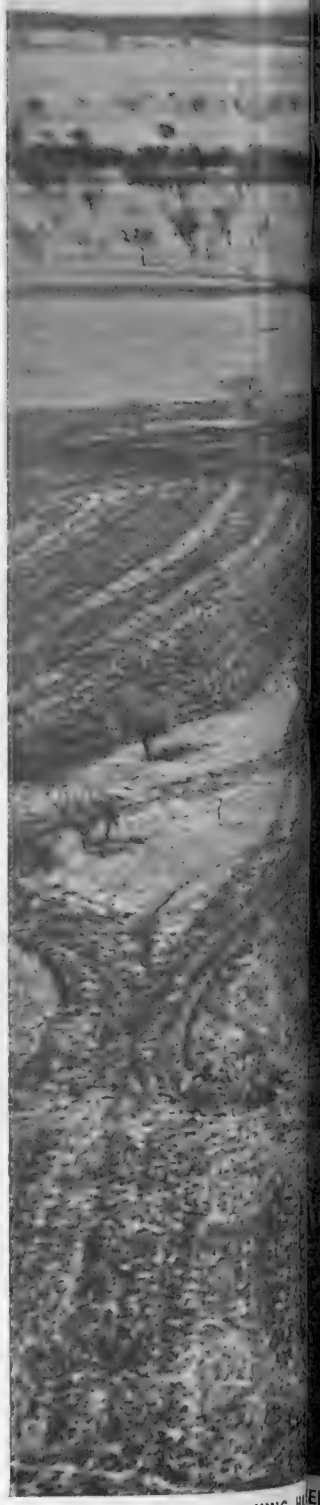
TESTING THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON SOIL: THE QUEENSLAND SORGHUM EXPERIMENT



THIS CIRCULAR-PLOUGHED PATCH AT BROOKHAVEN, NEW YORK, HAS BEEN THE SITE OF AN ATOMIC AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT: Brookhaven is the 6,000-acre reservation on Long Island of the United States Atomic Energy Commission. Right in the centre of the ploughed circle, inside a hollow steel shaft, a piece of radio-active cobalt, baked in the atomic pile at Oakridge, Tennessee, has been placed to give off gamma rays. The object of the experiment has been to determine the effect of the rays on the growth and nature of plants at specific distances from the source of the rays. The physical results of the experiment are recorded below

THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON A CROP OF SWEET CORN: This aerial view shows the experimental area at Brookhaven, reservation of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, after a crop had been sown and had had time to mature. Within a limited area the corn was killed. Over a wider area growth was stunted, and at the extreme limit of the patch the gamma rays apparently exerted little or no influence. The innocent-looking cornfield at Brookhaven, which was planted last May, is surrounded by notices bearing the words: "Warning—Lethal Source in Use—Do not Approach without Survey Meter." The researches will take several years to complete, and the American scientists at Brookhaven are hoping to probe many secrets of the source of plant life and what regulates it. Already the Japanese claim that the atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki actually improved the soil has been disproved. The reason for soil improvement in the stricken areas is attributed solely to the deposit of potash on the soil

These are busy days in East Centr Queensland, and only a few mi to the south of Blair Atholl, where va quantities of open-cast coal are to brought to the service of the Commo wealth, are the Peak Downs, where agricultural experiment of equal magn tude is under way. There tractors a once again busy cutting a swat through the fertile black soil, some which has never before been und cultivation. The total programme cov 300,000 acres, and each year new acreag will be added, as it is now being done Cullin-La-Ringo. It is hoped eventua to raise many millions of bushels sorghum, which will, in turn, maint a vast number of pigs to bring about increase in bacon exports to Englan



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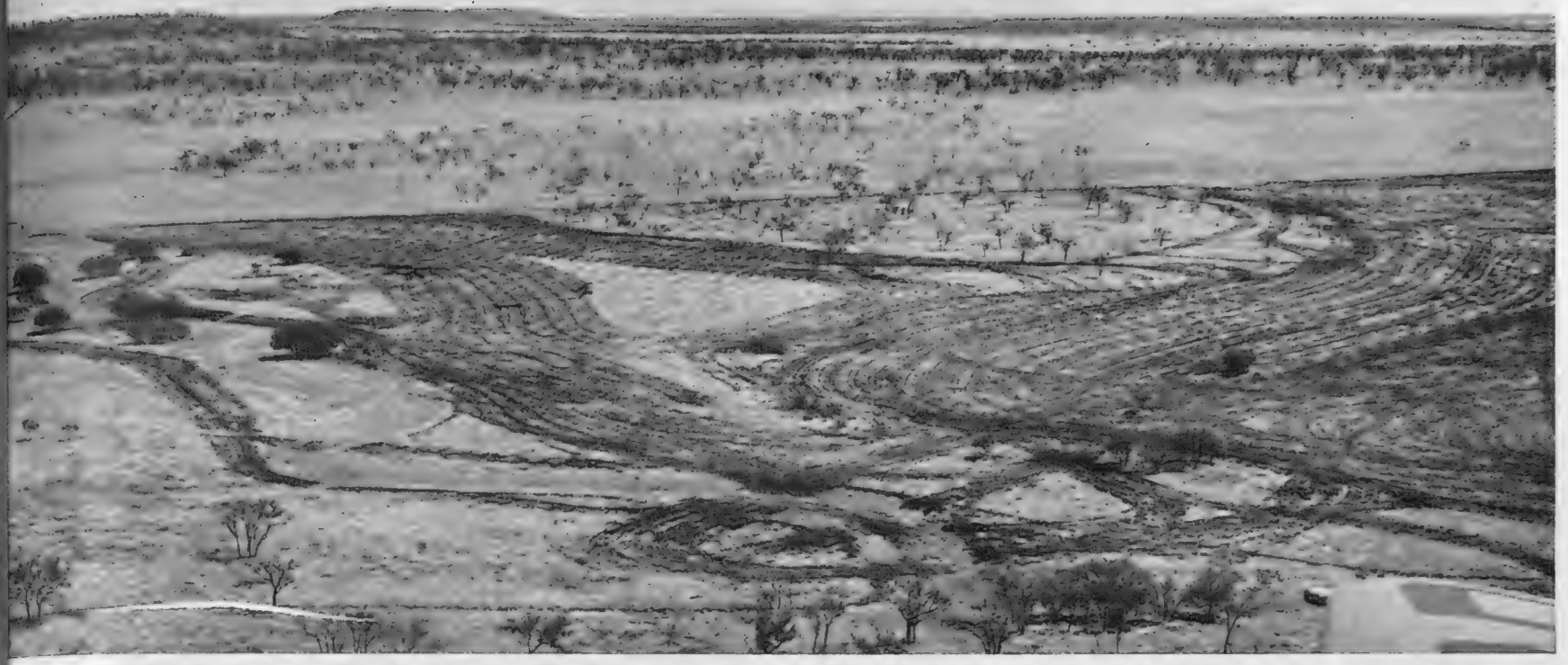


WHERE 40,000 ACRES OF VIRGIN COUNTRY ARE BEING PLOUGHED UP TO ADD TO THE ACREAGE OF THE QUEENSLAND BRITISH FOOD CORPORATION : This aerial view of ploughed downland was taken at Cullin-La-Ringo, adjoining the vast property at Peak Downs, East Central Queensland, where the British and Queensland Governments have embarked upon an imaginative plan for growing sorghum. Owing to severe frosts the first season's yield has been only 320,000 bushels, as against an estimated yield of 1,000,000 bushels; but the organisers are going ahead with their plans and, as this picture shows, are extending the acreage on this land at Cullin-La-Ringo

EN GOING WITH A SWING : This is another aerial view taken at Cullin-La-Ringo, Queensland, from an aircraft flying at 600 ft. The ploughs, it will be seen, follow a ightly-timbered country. To save time and ensure the ploughing of a maximum area during a day's work, natural obstacles such as trees and fallen timber are by-passed. ns in 1948 all the work at Peak Downs was done by nine men—six tractor operators, one mechanic, a greaser and a supervisor. The work went on all round the clock

BLONDINS OF MANHATTAN

Men at Work on the Dizzy Heights of the United Nations Secretariat in New York

A BRIDGEMAN AT WORK THIRTY STOREYS ABOVE MANHATTAN : Standing out on two planks, he is directing the positioning of steel girders in the erection of the final storeys of the new building of the United Nations Secretariat now rising beside the East River. Seventy-eight bridgemen are employed on the task. Most of them are veterans at this sort of work

HAUL AWAY! : A bridgeman directs the hoisting of steel girders on the United Nations Secretariat building. He wears rubber-soled shoes heavily laced, and gloves for handling ropes

BRIDGEMEN AT WORK ON A SCAFFOLD OF THE SECRETARIAT SKELETON : *Left*—**A riveter engaged in operations on the thirtieth storey.** *Right*—**A bridgeman tightening a bolt on a splice plate with the aid of a wrench. Far below him cars are seen travelling on Manhattan's riverside highway**

Dizzy heights are climbed daily by structural ironworkers of the U.S. Steel's American Bridge Company in erecting the framework of the United Nations Secretariat building on the East River site, New York. They are setting steel near the top of what will be a thirty-nine-storey-plus penthouse structure when completed. To go to work, the seventy-eight bridgemen employed there have to climb most of the way at heights from which the average desk-bound individual cannot look down without risking a dizzy spell. This feeling is not unknown to these builders. They have felt the sensation of the ground flying up at them from far below. But they have learned to adjust themselves to looking at the world from on high. They know how to change their perspective daily. No artificial aid will enable a man to qualify for this building trade. Steady nerves and a sense of balance are the fundamental requirements. Only the school of experience offers training for this aerial work. Most men begin when construction of a building is being started. This gives them a chance to try out their balance without too great a risk. If they have the proper balance, they gain confidence as the work continues. Even experienced steel-erectors are not permanently adjusted to working at great heights. A brief period of orientation is necessary on each job. If a bridgeman comes on a job after it is well up in the air, he will not be as active or at ease for a time as the man who has followed the project from the beginning. Tumblers from the circus or aerial artists are adept at the work. But they seldom come into the building field. On the other hand, structural ironworkers do not become circus performers. The bridgemen do not consider their work as showmanship. They work without spectators. When they are watched, it is at such a distance that no plaudits spur them on. They are in the air and on their own, and they like it there.

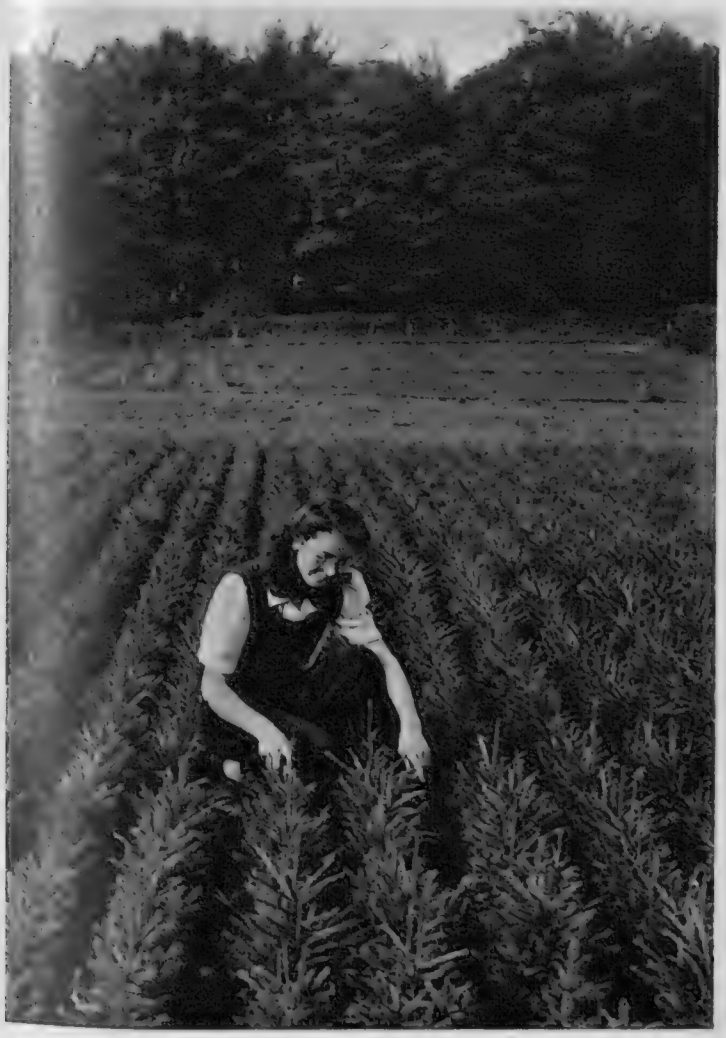
Whether the height is ten or thirty storeys makes little difference to the bridgemen. Their tasks are similar, regardless of the height. One bridgeman actually says it is dangerous working too close to the ground. "I walk around then on the steel without paying any attention to where I am going," he explains. "In the air, my eye stays right on the beam I am walking, so I can't go wrong." Declares another ironworker: "I can tell by watching a man work for an hour on steel whether he ever will be any good in the air. I watch how he handles his head. If he looks directly down, he 'll get dizzy. The same is true if he looks up. When he walks a beam he cannot look down too close to his feet or he will feel fear. He should keep his eye on the beam about 20 ft. out in front." Being a bridgeman isn't just a young man's trade. The average age of bridgemen on the U.N. Secretariat is forty-five. A number are in their fifties and a few in their sixties. At least six are grandfathers.

HERE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE RUTHLESS DEMANDS OF WAR ARE BEING MADE GOOD—THE WOODED WYE VALLEY WHICH IS NOW FOSTERING 6,000,000 NEW PLANTS : In these valleys of Tintern the Forestry Commission is busily cultivating young saplings in order to meet the modern need for hardwood. As hardwood is little used in this country owing to its rarity, the Commission take every advantage of places where hardwood-rearing is possible. Nearly half the area of the Tintern Woodlands is capable of producing good quality hardwoods. In this picture a woodman is seen stacking pit props. Below him is Angiddy Valley

RAISING HARDWOOD in the WYE VALLEY

Replenishing the Demands of War in the Tintern Woodlands

Away in the lovely woods of Tintern, along the Wye Valley, not far from its confluence with the Severn, the Forestry Commission is making use of the soil which is capable of producing good quality hardwoods. This is in some measure an answer to the critics in this country who complain that the cultivation of native hardwoods is being neglected. In the last forester's year about one-eleventh of all the planting carried out by the Commission was of hardwoods. In the woodlands of Tintern there is a 25-acre nursery where about 6,000,000 plants of sixteen species are flourishing; the oak seedlings having been reared from acorns sown last spring.



IN THE NURSERY OF THE WOODS : A Forestry assistant examines transplanted four-year-old Norway spruce. There is also a plantation of Norway spruce all pruned by hand to a height of 26 ft.

THE FORESTRY COMMISSION'S SAW-MILL IN THE WOODLANDS : The smaller logs are converted in the Commission's saw-mill in Tintern Village into fencing stakes, rough building timber and gate material. Hardwood saw timber is sold out of the forest to other saw-mills

EDINBURGH IS A CITY OF STEPS: This flight leads to the top of Castle Hill, and the Castle Esplanade, scene of colourful military ceremonial during the recent Festival, is on the left. Many of the houses on or near Edinburgh's Royal Mile, not all of them ancient, have a mediæval flavour or else are faintly reminiscent of the romantic German towns

THE STATUE OF THE FIFTH DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH GAZES DOWN ON ST. GILES' CATHEDRAL: In Victorian days the fifth Duke in Scottish affairs, and particularly in the affairs of Edinburgh, the Archers, Lord Lieutenant of Midlothian and Hon. Colonel

ON EDINBURGH'S ROMANTIC ROYAL MILE

Some Aspects of the Old City Recorded by the Camera

"THE OLD ASSEMBLY CLOSE" LEADS OFF THE HIGH STREET: A picturesque corner of the Old Town in the vicinity of St. Giles'. Edinburgh is full of old alley-ways such as this

THE "AULD REEKIE" OF TRADITION: A rather mournful prospect through Reid's Close, off High Street. Hazy through the mist and smoke of the capital city can be seen the Salisbury Crags. The Crags, the curious detached ridge on the west side of Arthur's Seat, afford a wonderful view of Edinburgh

THE SQUARE IN FRONT OF was a dominant figure He was Captain-General of of the Royal Scots

In the late summer Edinburgh was again host to the world at the third International Festival of Music and Drama and once again many thousands of people saw the city for the first time and learnt to know something of its vast attraction. There are really two Edinburghs. The New Town, which owes so much to the influence of the Adam Brothers, and the Old Town, with its Royal Mile, its historic buildings, and its many links with the Scotland of earlier days. These pictures deal essentially with the Old Town.

LOOKING ACROSS LAWNMARKET TO ONE OF THE SOLID, UNADORNED BUILDINGS THAT ARE SUCH A FEATURE OF THE OLD CITY AND IN SUCH MARKED CONTRAST TO THOSE OF THE NEW TOWN WHICH CAME UNDER THE INSPIRATION OF THE ADAMS BROTHERS : The Lawnmarket (originally Landmarket) was the spot to which country folk used to bring their produce for sale to the people of Edinburgh. Among famed residents of Lawnmarket were Mary of Guise, mother of Mary Queen of Scots, and William Brodie, who was a deacon by day and a burglar by night

THE CANONGATE TOLBOOTH : One of Canongate Tolbooth's many claims to fame is that Professor Gregory is buried there—the Gregory who invented the " powder "

THE PALACE OF HOLYROOD, ANCIENT HOME OF THE KINGS OF SCOTLAND AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY ON THEIR FREQUENT VISITS TO THE SCOTTISH CAPITAL : Holyrood Abbey, behind the Palace, was founded by David I in 1128 after he had escaped death while hunting. The Palace, built by James IV in 1498-1503, was burnt by accident in 1650, restored by Cromwell and rebuilt by Charles II. Here the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland holds his levee each May after opening the Assembly

THE HOME NEWS IN PICTURES

FROM LONDON AND THE PROVINCES

THE NEW SILVER LIGHTING IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE: *On left*, **as seen from South Africa House.** *On right*—**The brightly-illuminated fountains, with St. Martin-in-the-Fields in the background, the National Gallery on the left, and South Africa House on the right.** The coloured lighting was only a temporary arrangement, to celebrate the reopening of the Square on Trafalgar Day last year, when the Duke of Gloucester unveiled the memorials to Admirals of the Fleet Lord Jellicoe and Lord Beatty. It proved so popular, however, that it was retained. The new lighting is the permanent installation. The fittings were specially made for the job and are very much less conspicuous than the temporary ones. Instead of glass, they are fitted with special reflectors to give a brilliant white light which reflects from the water with an effect of silver. The fittings have been made watertight, as they are all partially or wholly submerged. Each fountain has six lamps in the top bowl, eight in the centre bowl and twelve in the pool at the base. In addition, each bronze group has a circular ring of lamps round the base

THE R.A.F. BOMBERS TRAGEDY: The shattered wing of one of the two Lincoln bombers which collided in mid-air over Staythorpe, in Nottinghamshire, when making a mock attack on Newark. Fourteen men were killed

THE REMAINS OF ONE OF THE LINCOLN BOMBERS: The wreckage was strewn over a wide area. Police, firemen and ambulance parties, searching for the victims, were held up by fog and had to continue their work on the following day. The aircraft had taken off from Waddington, in Lincolnshire, and were taking part in the mock air raid on Newark in the final phase of "Exercise Bulldog." The machines came into collision and crashed, causing the death of the entire crews of both aircraft

TELEVISING THE ICE SHOW AT RADIOLYMPIA: Technicians engaged in the broadcast may be seen round the cameras and microphones, while others stand in the wings. The sixteenth National Radio Exhibition was opened by Mr. Herbert Morrison at Olympia on Wednesday of last week, the day that the Motor Show opened at Earl's Court. The ceremony was both broadcast and televised. A strike of electricians, carpenters and painters held up the completion of the stands and was only settled two days before the show opened

THROUGH THE NARROW STREETS AT DUSK: The 40-ft. cabin cruiser was bought from a garage in the Edgware Road. The problem of conveying the 8-ton boat to the Thames was solved by using a large motor-trailer, but the journey had to be made in the evening, as a regulation demands police escort for a load of this size if moved before 6.30 p.m.

DRIVING THE FIRST ELECTRIC TRAIN TO LEAVE LIVERPOOL STREET STATION—THE NEW OVERHEAD CABLE SERVICE ON THE SHENFIELD LINE: The Minister of Transport, Mr. Alfred Barnes, who inaugurated the service, seen in the driving cabin of the first train. Earlier he had cut a ribbon away from a carriage door. The new service, which marks the replacement of steam by electricity on one suburban line, will be in full operation at the beginning of next month. Nine-car trains, carrying nearly 1,500 passengers as compared with a steam train's 1,000, are operating the service, which reduces the time taken to Shenfield by seven or eight minutes. At a buffet reception after the opening ceremony, the Lord Mayor of London described the passengers using the Shenfield line as having "suffered untold agonies." Although the electrification alterations have been made on the main lines out of Liverpool Street, all local services have suffered during the change-over owing to signal reconstruction

THE NEW SERVICE WHICH CAUSED CHAOS AT LIVERPOOL STREET—THE SHENFIELD-BOUND ELECTRIC TRAIN ON ITS INAUGURAL RUN: On the Monday when the new service began, Liverpool Street Station was plunged into confusion as a result of the change-over from steam. Many of the trains entering Liverpool Street from all areas proceeded from signal to signal as a platform in the station became vacant

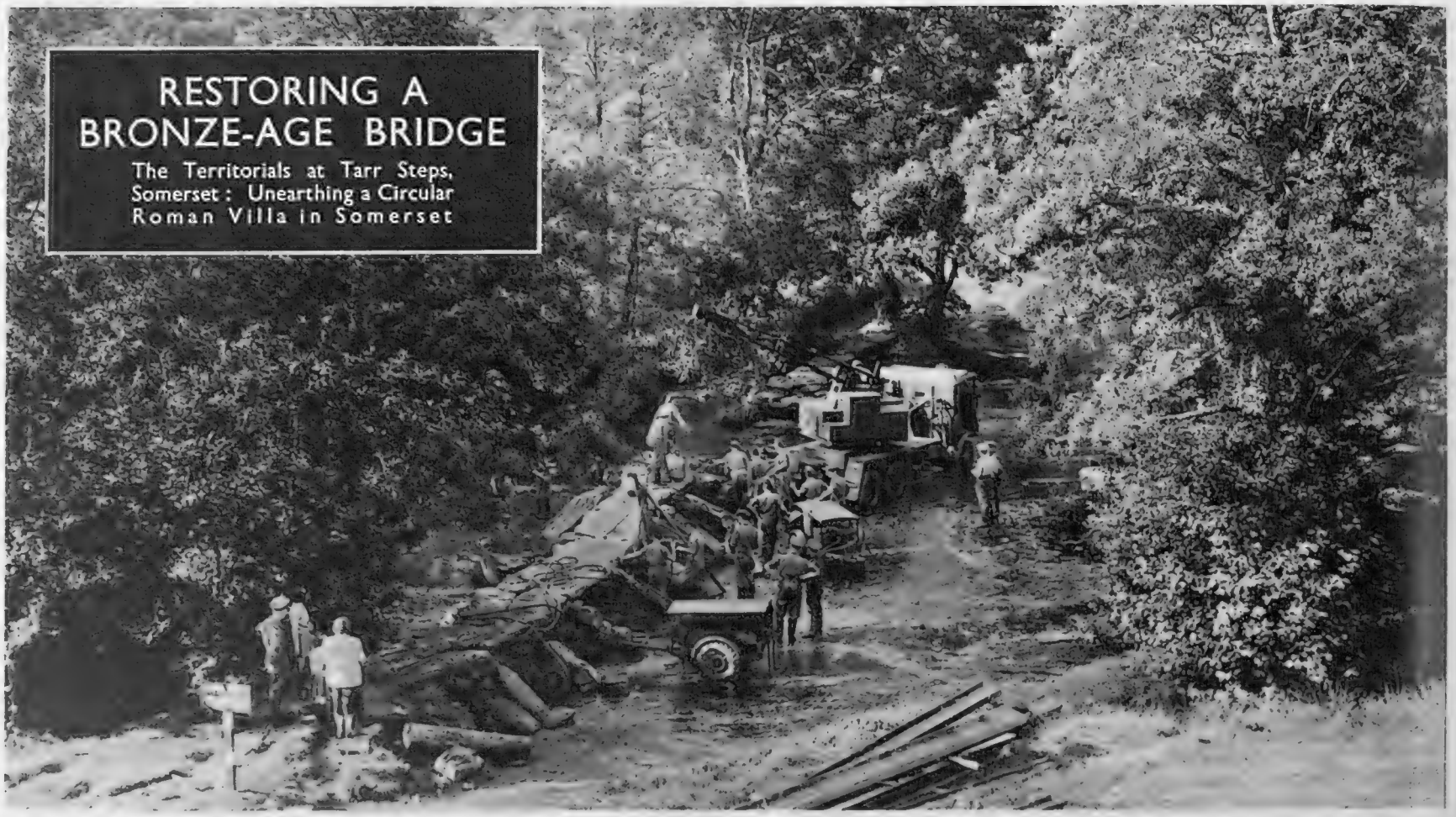
THE CITY PICKWICK CLUB MEETS AGAIN AT THE GEORGE AND VULTURE: *On left*—**The main entrance to the tavern.** *On right*—**The fine dining-room, known as the Pickwick Room.** The club was formed in 1909 by City men to perpetuate the memory of Charles Dickens. Meetings were postponed during the war, but have now begun again after a lapse of ten years. The George and Vulture Tavern, headquarters of the club, was a favourite dining-place of Charles Dickens, and he gave it a prominent place in *Pickwick Papers*. Here Mr. Pickwick and Sam Weller came to live after leaving Goswell Street and, from that time, it became Pickwick's headquarters. Here, also, Jackson, from Dodson and Fagg's office, served the subpœnas on Mr. Tupman and Mr. Snodgrass when they were on a visit to Mr. Pickwick. The old entrance to the tavern is much as it was in Dickens' day, and the dining-room is particularly fine and well preserved

AN AIRMAN WEDS: Jim Mollison leaves Maidenhead Registry Office after his marriage to Mrs. Mary Kamphuis. The airman had been married twice previously—in 1932 to Amy Johnson, who was killed while transport flying in 1941 (the marriage was dissolved in 1938), and later to Mrs. Phyllis Hussey. Before her marriage to Mollison, Mrs. Kamphuis was the widow of one of his best friends, a colonel in the Dutch Air Force who was killed in an air-crash in Spain

THE MARQUESS OF MILFORD HAVEN, O.B.E., D.S.C., AND MRS. R. D. P. SIMPSON: The engagement was announced last week of the thirty-year-old great-great-grandson of Queen Victoria to twenty-seven-year-old Mrs. Romaine Dahlgren Pierce Simpson, only surviving child of the late Mr. Vinton V. D. Pierce and of Mrs. Clark McIlwaine, of Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. The Marquess, a cousin of the King and nephew of Earl Mountbatten, was best man at the wedding of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, two years ago. He was a naval officer during the war and is now a business man and director of four companies, which he has represented when travelling in the United States. Mrs. Simpson's previous marriage was dissolved last year

RESTORING A BRONZE-AGE BRIDGE

The Territorials at Tarr Steps, Somerset: Unearthing a Circular Roman Villa in Somerset



THE TERRITORIALS GO INTO ACTION IN A SOMERSET COMBE: Sappers of the 116 Army Engineer Regiment (T.A.) at work on the restoration of Tarr Steps, the Bronze Age clapper bridge over the River Barle, near Dulverton, Somerset. The bridge was destroyed by flood-water, ice and debris washed down the river in the winter of 1938-39. It is scheduled as an ancient monument and is being reconstructed in its original form under the guidance of archæologists. Temporary repairs were made during the war with iron and concrete, and were far from satisfactory. The bridge crosses the Barle at a ford, and it was originally constructed of large flagstones, uncemented and resting on similar stones placed edgewise. It is generally regarded as a relic of the Bronze Age and it is certainly a great artistic addition to a charming bit of river

A STEEL SUSPENSION BRIDGE NOW SPANS THE BARLE, AT TARR STEPS: It has been erected by the Territorials in order to enable work to proceed on the old bridge

A CIRCULAR ROMAN TEMPLE IS BROUGHT TO LIGHT ON PAGAN'S HILL, CHEW STOKE: Part of the excavations on a Somerset hilltop which have revealed evidence of a shrine of unusual construction. The excavations began last Easter and so far, about a quarter of the total area has been laid bare

THE FLOOR OF THE ROMAN VILLA AT CHEW STOKE: Fragments brought to light on the hilltop site in Somerset

The excavations at Chew Stoke, Somerset, have special interest owing to the circular shape of the temple building. There are traces of a circular wall surrounded by an outer wall, and of a courtyard in between. A number of mosaic cubes, part of the forecourt, have been found, and several coins of the fourth century have been picked up. No inscriptions have so far come to light, and there is an almost complete absence of pottery fragments. The site was robbed of stone in the fourteenth century, as several buildings in the vicinity bear evidence of the original stone in their construction

REMOVING THE GREAT FLAGSTONES AT TARR STEPS: Territorials operating a crane when preparing for the reconstruction of the bridge across the Barle. Territorials are doing the manual labour, and archæologists are supervising the work

A PARADE OF YEARLINGS AT THE NEWMARKET OCTOBER SALES: Colts and fillies parading before potential buyers on the opening day of the sales. These upstanding yearlings were bred by the late Lord Portal, and they sold for a total of 32,300 guineas

YEARLINGS Bring High Prices AT THE OCTOBER SALES AT NEWMARKET

Never before have yearling sales had so good a start as they did at Newmarket last week, and signs were not wanting that British bloodstock breeding, in the doldrums during the first post-war years, is now almost re-established on its old high plane. At the July Sales the late Lord Portal's horses realised over 70,000 guineas, including 17,000 guineas for the two-year-old Hedgerow. The October Sales started with the offering of Lord Portal yearlings, and the big prices realised set the mark for the days that followed. Lord Portal's five yearlings were by Nearco, Caracalla II, Hyperion, Rockefella and Nasrullah. On the second day the fillies were in the limelight, and George Beeby, the Compton trainer, went to 6,500 guineas for a filly by Nasrullah out of Marshfield. The filly is a half-sister to Ann Denise, a winner of several sprints when trained by Beeby. There was spirited bidding also for the Irish-bred Sarzarna, a filly by Stardust out of Orama, for whom George Colling, the Newmarket trainer, went to 4,200 guineas. On the same day a colt by Panorama went for 3,700 guineas.

8,000 GUINEAS FOR A FILLY BY BIG GAME OUT OF CLEARANCE: This fine young thoroughbred, the property of Mr. W. Harvey (who won last year's Gimcrack with Star King), was sold to Mr. H. C. Leader. High prices are being paid for Big Game stock, and another fine bay filly by Big Game out of Tibet, also the property of Mr. W. Harvey, sold for 4,000 guineas

PERSONALITIES AT THE OCTOBER SALES: Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Marsh with Sir Humphrey de Trafford and his daughter, Miss Catherine de Trafford. Sir Humphrey has twice been a Jockey Club Steward

THIS NEARCO COLT SET THE BIDDING ALIGHT AT THE START OF THE SALES: The handsome grey, out of Infra Red, being paraded round the ring at the start of the auction. Prince Aly Khan, acting on behalf of his father, flew from France to outbid Yorkshire breeder Major L. B. Holliday for this colt. The price of 14,500 guineas was a record for these particular sales

BRITAIN'S NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ACTING

The Achievements of the R.A.D.A

By CHARLES GRAVES

ONCE again the Autumn Term of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art has started, and this week with more students than ever—no fewer than 289, of whom twenty-six come from the United States. As a digression, it seems as though the R.A.D.A. is destined to become more and more of a dollar-earner. Not only are American Government scholarships granted to would-be actors and actresses, but Dolores Gray and Isabel Bigley both took a short course of tuition while playing the leads of *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Oklahoma!* in London, a very pretty compliment paid by two very pretty girls.

Of the 289 students, 141 are men. Neither in their case nor in that of the girls is there any age limit, provided they are more than sixteen. To teach them acting there is a professorial staff of forty, headed by Sir Kenneth Barnes and assisted by such well-known actors and actresses as Frederick Ranalow, Denys Blakelock, Helen Haye, Dame Irene Vanbrugh, Colin Chandler, Maurice Colbourne, Lydia Sokolova, Phyllis Bedells and Hugh Miller.

Before qualifying for the R.A.D.A. there is a comparatively stiff test for candidates, who are sent nine or ten different set pieces, one of which they must select to speak in character without prompting. The candidate must also be prepared to recite one short piece of verse or prose chosen independently. Male candidates are given a choice of Romeo saying "How often when men are at the point of death . . .", Hotspur saying "My liege, I did deny no prisoners . . .", and special selections from John Masefield, Arthur Pinero, Tchekhov, Bernard Shaw, Clemence Dane, Galsworthy, or Granville-Barker. The girls are given selections from *St. Joan, As You Like It, Romeo and Juliet, The Rivals, Cæsar and Cleopatra* and *Alice in Wonderland* among others. There are five judges, who, like referees at a prize-fight, give points in quarters and halves; but unlike referees, can mark up ten points instead of five points per round (of two rounds). At the most recent adjudication the highest points secured were fourteen out of a maximum of twenty. The judges are expert at seeing whether the students have been specially crammed for their test as opposed to having a spontaneous dramatic feeling, and some candidates ruin their chances by their own unfortunate selection. Schoolboy-type ballads like "He Fell Among Thieves" or "Pussy in the Milk" out of some women's magazine naturally act as deterrents. At the most recent examination of candidates 310 were examined and only seventy were passed. At which stage it should be pointed out that there is a so-called Preparatory Academy at Highgate at which students are admitted who are either too young for the R.A.D.A., who wish for a short course of training before competing for a vacancy, or for whom no vacancy is immediately available. At each R.A.D.A. Entrants' Test a number of applicants are referred to the Highgate branch.

Those who are permitted to enter the portals of 62, Gower Street pay 60 guineas a year for two years. There are three terms each, lasting eleven weeks. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., except Saturdays and Sundays, during which they are taught anything from voice production, phonetics and broadcasting to deportment, dancing and actual acting. Extras are kept to a minimum, and though they include books, wardrobe and lockers, rarely exceed £2 per term. As for meals, these are served at canteen prices. Under the regulations the Council maintains the right to terminate the course of any student at the end of any term if he or she is not making adequate progress. By contrast, no student is allowed to undertake any professional engagement without the permission of the Principal. In fact, there is a mid-course exam. after three terms, failure to pass which compels the student to leave. The results of this examination and other causes are responsible for about a dozen students leaving summarily each year. Against this, there is an average of five students per term who are offered professional jobs while they are still learning. Permission is always granted to them to carry out these engagements unless they interfere with some major activity of the R.A.D.A., such as the annual matinée at which the gold and silver medals are awarded. As a case in point, Dorothy Tutin was playing the lead at the Boltons during the summer vacation, but has now returned this week to continue her studies. Another girl, Ann Howe (who has recently changed her name to Ann Hayes), is in the new Hugh Wakefield show shortly coming to London, but wants to return to the Academy.

Every year an average of 140 students pass, out of whom fifty secure diplomas. Of these, thirty or more get jobs almost immediately, usually in repertory, which can be regarded as a post-graduate course. The reason for the continued success of the R.A.D.A. and its ever-increasing number of prospective candidates is perfectly simple. The number of leading actors and actresses on the English stage and on the screen who have passed through R.A.D.A. is quite astonishing. The gold medallists alone include Charles Laughton, Robert Atkins, Athene Seyler, Gladys Young, Joan Swinstead, Joan Harben and Mervyn Johns. The screen is represented by Valerie Hobson, Patricia Roc, Anne Crawford, Margaret Lockwood, Richard Attenborough and Sheila Sim, whose parents all paid the usual fees. In addition, there are Valerie Taylor, Adele Dixon, Lydia Sherwood and Eleanor Summerfield, who arrived in Gower Street as L.C.C. scholars from council schools.

Parents of students come from every walk in life: charwomen, groundsmen, Guards officers, lawyers, actors and actresses, and clergymen. There is a noticeable percentage of the sons and daughters of parsons, all of them reacting, no doubt, from their rigid family background. Surnames are similarly varied and many of them need swift adaptation. What chance, for example, has a girl whose real name is Mary Puddephatt? By contrast, one of the more successful recent students of the R.A.D.A. is Gaylord Cavellero, which is actually his real name. Some of the students arrive at the Academy complete with stage name; others change them often on the advice of their kindly principal, Sir Kenneth Barnes. At the moment the most popular stage name for men is Anthony, while Anthea and Lynne have a number of adherents among the girls. Recently, one of the students, Anne Basket, has been querying the suitability of her name. She has, however, been advised by Sir Kenneth not to change it, and if the girl turns into a comedienne he could not be more right. Actually, the R.A.D.A. does not make any great efforts about teaching students the rudiments of musical comedy, although there is tuition in ballet. Any dancing and singing lessons are primarily given for poise and voice production. Character acting from heavy drama to drawing-room comedy is the principal diet. However, always keeping pace with the times, the R.A.D.A. specialises in broadcasting and television.

Wastage? The vast majority of the young men realise that it is a mistake to hamper their careers by getting married too young. But a few of the girls go off and get married, usually at the end of their course. No academy with mixed classes would be healthy without a few romances, but a strict eye is kept on the moral tone of the students. Undesirables are seeded at an early stage.

In addition to the L.C.C. scholarships, there are a number of other scholarships provided by such people as Sir Alexander Korda, Lady Mountbatten, the late George Arliss, and the Rhodes Trust. In addition, there are Coronation scholarships, Leverhulme scholarships and the Halford Trust scholarships. Also, Tennent Plays Ltd., in association with the Arts Council, award a year's contract to a selected student at the end of his or her course. As far as the stage is concerned, Diana Allen walked straight into a £15 a week job on leaving the R.A.D.A., while Victor Madden was selected at the end of last term for a film at a fee of £20 a day.

Film directors, stage producers and theatrical agents invariably attend the annual matinée and many of them go talent-scouting to the Divisional Class Performance, in which students take part during their last term. Promising youngsters may receive as many as three or four letters from theatrical agents inviting them to go round and discuss a contract. Usually, however, they are advised not to sign anything. Miss Pilgrim, Sir Kenneth Barnes' P.A., herself conducts a kind of unofficial theatrical and film agency, charging no fees and advising the young people not to run before they can walk.

It will be seen from all this that the R.A.D.A. is run on really practical lines. It has earned the status of being the National School of Acting in this country, but derives its popularity from the astonishing success of its students ever since it was originally founded in 1904 by Sir Herbert Tree. In a few months' time further attention will be drawn to its existence by the new Alfred Hitchcock film called *Stage Fright*. The opening scenes are laid in a faithful reproduction of the R.A.D.A., with Jane Wyman playing the part of a student who becomes involved in a murder. In a way, it is a pity that the film had to be made before the big students' theatre, blitzed in 1941, was rebuilt. But it is only now that the Ministry of Works has given gracious permission for its renovation and enlargement. The cost of this undertaking is estimated at £80,000, but the result will be quite the finest student theatre on either side of the Atlantic—if enough funds can be raised. The small theatre in Gower Street has a stage approximately 20 ft. by 15 ft.

In the meantime, the much-advertised Company of Youth, otherwise known as the Charm School, started by Sidney Box and taken over by Arthur Rank, petered out some months ago after an active existence of less than two years. This organisation was primarily intended to coach promising youngsters for the films, and certainly succeeded in grooming a few starlets; but it was found that it was much more practical to give them experience in real films, however tiny their parts. So once again the R.A.D.A. leads the other establishments in the realm of theatrical training.

LIFE AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART: *Left*—**Students relaxing in the canteen.** *Right*—**Miss Evelyn Milnes, who directs the Wardrobe, fitting a student with a period gown for one of the R.A.D.A. shows. Talent scouts often attend these shows and are sometimes ready to offer contracts to promising students**

FENCING IS PART OF THE CURRICULUM AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART: Ernst Froeschlan taking a class. Knowledge of fencing is invaluable for the Shakespearean actor at some stage in his career, and it also gives the aspiring actor and actress the qualities of poise and balance

ON THE SWITCHBOARD IN THE TINY GOWER STREET THEATRE: Mr. William Honeywood, who at the time when this picture was taken was running the course on stage management, seen giving a demonstration at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. The stage is no more than 20 ft. by 15 ft.

THE WRECKED 45-TON MOTOR YAWL "ALIRMAY": Six men jumped for life when this vessel ran aground in dense fog on the Kincardineshire coast just south of Aberdeen. The cook, James Legge, was first ashore, leading a scramble up the precipitous 100-ft. cliffs. Within a few minutes the "Alirmay" was swamped and being pounded to destruction by the waves

ON THE ROCKS

HIGH SEAS BEAT AROUND BRITAIN'S SHORES

On left—THE COASTER "BRIGHTSIDE" LASHED BY HEAVY SEAS: The vessel lying helpless after running ashore in fog at Colliestown, Aberdeenshire. Tremendous seas poured over the stricken ship as she stood beneath the rocks, and soon after this picture was taken she took on a heavy list as a result of vast quantities of water entering the hold

The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY and FICTION

Some Outstanding Contributions to the Autumn Publishing Lists

THE Pre-Raphaelites are having a renascence of popularity, at least in so far as literary discussions of their work are concerned, and Professor Oswald Doughty's important new volume on Dante Gabriel Rossetti is yet another step in the re-discovery of that remarkable and vital group of poets and painters. A VICTORIAN ROMANTIC (Frederick Muller. 25s.) is—literally—a ponderous volume in its 700 pages, but—equally literally—it is respectable both in size and quality. The author disclaims that his book is a history of the Pre-Raphaelites, or a critical study of them or D.G.R., or even a biography of the Rossetti family, but necessarily in a study so comprehensive, it partakes of all three of these aspects. It is the result of many years' work of research and planning, and has a sweep of vision that should make it a work of reference on its subject for many years to come.

SWEET AND SOUR (Michael Joseph. 10s. 6d.) is a disjointed and delightful book of memories by Mr. Joseph Wechsberg, who learned about life in his native Czechoslovakia as a boy, in Paris, on the Côte d'Azur, and in transatlantic liners, and who has learned to write about it in the United States, where he now lives. The resultant mixture is excellent: light-hearted, philosophical, acutely observant, and as smooth as a good *sauce Bearnaise*. The gastronomical note is not out of place, either, because this author who has known what it is to be hungry, even though that is now presumably a distant memory, has a fine appreciation of food, and has retained almost as much interest in it as he has in music. These chapters of autobiography treat mainly of other people, of amusing or pathetic characters, of tight corners, of hilarious incidents, and again of food and music. His writing and his themes are admirably objective, and perhaps because of that we learn even more about his own experience and his own resilient nature.

It is the primary business of a popular novelist to entertain, and when so gifted a writer as Miss G. B. Stern issues yet another volume of her reminiscences, we may look for keen observation and much entertainment. In BENEFITS FORGOT (Cassell. 15s.), Miss Stern does not disappoint us. "I had often stayed with Kate and Bobby and Robin at their seaside house, before the war. It stands on the strip of south-east coast between Dover and Folkestone, facing the Channel with only a low sea-wall between." Nothing could be more entertaining to those who inhabit that bleak cliff-top; and they might be even more amused to read: "I looked out of the window . . . and there was Pluto itself, or a piece of Pluto, like a giant reel of cotton with pipeline wound up on it. And not only Pluto, but a bit of grounded Mulberry a short way out to sea. . . ." Similarly, those indigenous to Romney Marsh will like to know that "Five large American airfields had stood on these marshes. From between the dykes of quiet and beautiful meadows, American airmen had gone up night and day to give fighter cover, especially during the vital period of the D-Day operations and after. Train-busting was their special party piece." No one, I feel sure, will appreciate that more than the personnel of certain squadrons of the Royal Air Force. Or again: "Going with Kate to Buckingham Palace on Monday morning to see the 'Salute the Soldier' march-past in the sunshine . . . the British Standard (*sic*) still flew over our Palace, and our King and Queen and Royal Princesses still stood there to take the salute. . . ." Not since Ouida's famous line, "All rowed fast, but none so fast as stroke," have we been so entertained. And Ouida was a good novelist, too.

Many things have been written and have surely been said about the character of the Empress Eugènie, and not all of them have been cordial. But it was the object of the late Mrs. Belloc Lowndes, in her novel SHE DWELT WITH BEAUTY (Macmillan. 10s. 6d.), to show Napoleon III's wife as not only a universally acknowledged beauty, but as a tender-hearted woman, very much in love with her unreliable husband, idealistic in a practical way, and impulsive where others have recorded her as overbearing. Whether or not one shares the author's view, however, there can be no denying that this tragic tale makes excellent reading as it is told here, or that Mrs. Belloc Lowndes' brilliant gifts have been used to great advantage.

THE VILLAGE OF HAWKSWORTH, NEAR LEEDS, WHICH PROVIDED THE SETTING FOR WILLIAM RILEY'S FAMOUS FIRST NOVEL, "WINDYRIDGE," IS IN DANGER OF BEING SPOILT BY BUILDING DEVELOPMENT: Hawksworth still has no church or inn, and only one shop, and appears much as it did when Riley's novel first delighted English readers thirty-seven years ago. "Windyridge," written without thought of publication, became instantly popular when it was published before the First World War. William Riley is now in his eighty-fourth year. His home is near Carnforth

To say that Miss Ngaio Marsh ranks with the Christies and the Sayers is nothing less than the truth. Her detective-stories are very good indeed, and although she shares with one of these ladies an occasional weakness for the literary purple patch, the construction and invention of her stories are none the worse for that. SWING, BROTHER, SWING (Crime Club. 9s. 6d.) is her newest work, and I 'm sure it will entertain her fans as it has entertained me. It is often said of the books of mystery writers that they helped to beguile the tedium of a long railway journey, and said, moreover, in praise. There has always seemed to me to be a slightly patronising air about that dictum, but having read the present novel in those circumstances, I 'm inclined to see what they mean. Miss Marsh and a score of her colleagues in this matter, are benefactors of mankind.

THE LYING LADIES (Bodley Head. 8s. 6d.) is a tough and even a gruesome murder mystery, but it is well constructed and as logical as these things are apt to be, in fiction. There are a good many gory details, muscular men beat each other up with the regularity of dinner gongs, and weak women have their eyes blacked and worse, but that seems to be the tradition and rule in detective-stories nowadays, and I sometimes think back in what I am sure is a mood of weak sentimentality to the days when story-book crooks either shot each other or knifed each other, or hid from each other in exotic disguises, but when there were few of those competitions known as slugging matches, and when low cunning took the place of torture. Nevertheless, and by the new standards, Mr. Robert Finnegan has written an ingenious story, rather too complicated, perhaps, but full of the most direct kind of action.

DEAN LION, by John and Emery Bonett (Michael Joseph. 8s. 6d.), is a literary thriller with an ingenious twist. It concerns the death of Cyprian Druse, a brilliant, malicious literary man, and the discovery in his cabinet of six home-made recordings made by women who had been in love with him. Before we find out "whodunit" we are introduced to all sorts of characters in the literary world, including some of those famous ones who perform on B.B.C. quizzes. All very witty, ingenious, amusing and entertaining.

In a class by himself, of course, is Mr. Peter Cheyney. ONE OF THOSE THINGS (Collins. 8s. 6d.) introduces us to Terence O'Day, a sleuth with a sinewy physique; very blue, very steady eyes; well-dressed and with "a touch of a South Irish accent." Like Lemmy Caution and Slim Callaghan, he likes whisky—Bourbon, for preference—and Dames. Naturally, the Dames are beautifully streamlined; both their clothes and their figures are described meticulously and they are addicted to gun-metal nylons. The thing which distinguishes this novel from Mr. Cheyney's usual formula is the absence of that synthetic American talk which is peculiarly his own. Otherwise the ingredients are all here: fast cars, lovely dames, shady night clubs and, of course, the imperturbable hero himself, South Irish accent and all.

The VITTORIA COTTAGE (Collins. 8s. 6d.) of Miss D. E. Stevenson has, of course, a flagged path and roses round the door. Caroline Dering is, naturally, beloved in the village, and the only thing brought to disturb its sylvan calm are the affairs of her children and of her sister, Harriet, who turns out to be a celebrated actress. It is all very charming and diverting, as, indeed, is A CLEAR DAWN (Faber. 9s. 6d.) by Winifred Peck. We are told that Lady Peck has written many successful novels about what used to be called "the upper classes." In this novel "she shows that these gifts do not desert her when she writes about people who are far from being well-off." It is hardly necessary to add anything further to that.

NAZIS AT WORK

A Frenchman Surveys "The Fateful Years"

To-day Military Government in Germany is at an end. Chancellor Adenauer leads a Government of the Right, by no means free of Fascist elements, and the conquerors of Hitler's Third Reich are represented by three High Commissioners, General Robertson (Britain), Mr. John McCloy (the United States) and M. André François-Poncet (France). For André François-Poncet, a rare expert of German psychology, the wheel has almost turned full circle. He was French Ambassador in Berlin from 1931 to 1938 and suffered imprisonment in the war years at the hands of the Nazis. He saw the emergence of Pierre Laval as French Premier, and the emergence of Heinrich Bruning as German Chancellor; he saw the impact of one upon the other, and eventually he saw the German leader, who never quite fell for Laval's oily charm, driven to the wall by machinations within the Reich. Chancellor Bruning, with his air of modesty and integrity, his dignity and his kindliness, stood for Parliamentary democracy at its best, and when he went M. François-Poncet saw clearly enough that Germany would follow the road to adventure, and it is this fatal path that the author describes with such forcefulness and clarity, such a wealth of first-hand detail, in his new book, THE FATEFUL YEARS (Victor Gollancz. 18s.). After Bruning came Schleicher, a soldier who could out-general most in the field of political intrigue, a realist and a cynic. Von Papen, too, was in the forefront, that sly fox whom the Germans never took over-seriously, that maladroit junior diplomat of World War I who exploited to the full his friendship with Hindenburg, and finally, in revenge for defeat at the hands of Schleicher, let Adolf Hitler slip through to power. That power Hitler soon made supreme, much as Napoleon did in the *coup d'état* of Brumaire. M. François-Poncet gives us a fascinating insight into the Nazis at work. He reveals the consummate ability of Göring, who, playing the role of Lucien Bonaparte, swept away all Parliamentary obstacles, and he shows how such a seemingly clumsy expedient as the Reichstag fire trial, at which the outside world scoffed, proved a mighty unifying force within the Reich. Hitler, M. François-Poncet describes as "a man possessed." He had many opportunities of observing him, often at close quarters. The last time was in that mountain eyrie, that billionaire's folly or megalomaniac's hide-out in the Bavarian Alps, when the Ambassador came to take leave of the Führer. "This was not one of his days of excitement," says the author. "Rather he was in a phase of relaxation. . . . He was calm, moderate and conciliatory, except for a few violent outbursts when he spoke of Britain." He lived, according to M. François-Poncet, in alternate states of excitement and depression. He was "a morbid personality, a quasi-madman, a character out of the pages of Dostoyevski; in fact, a man possessed." *The Fateful Years* is not a dramatically-written book. But the deeply dramatic story is told with force and with authority, above all, with underlying honesty. The monstrous triumph of cynicism and violence is laid bare relentlessly.

Alan Walbank is that rare being, an anthologist with an original mind. That seeming contradiction is explained by his new book, ENGLAND YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY (Batsford. 15s.), which disguises under its rather humdrum title the fact that it is a bright and breezy anthology compiled from the novelists of the period 1837-1937. Under such headings as Society, Leisure, At School, In Town, At Home, Mr. Walbank has ranged far and wide with obvious zest, selecting both from the giants of the period—Trollope, Thackeray, Henry James and Meredith—and also from the pages of Theodore Hook, W. H. Mallock and the unforgettable Ouida, who, incidentally, wrote far better than some critics have been prepared to allow.

Two new volumes for the art lover are Oliver Millar's THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH (Longmans. 10s. 6d.), in the "Masters of Painting" Series, and AUDUBON'S AMERICAN BIRDS (Batsford. 6s. 6d.), with an introduction by Sacheverell Sitwell. Mr. Millar, Assistant Surveyor of the King's Pictures, chooses eight Gainsborough paintings for reproduction in full colour, including the very colourful portrait of Viscount Kilmorey, which contrasts so strangely with the quietude of Gainsborough's rural scenes. In Mr. Sitwell's book the reproductions from the plates by J. J. Audubon have been printed in the Netherlands. The standard is as near perfection as one could deem possible, chromo-lithography combined with offset technique having been skilfully employed. Printers and publishers alike merit the warmest congratulations.

Lloyd Mangrum, one of the stars of the American Ryder Cup constellation, in 1948 America's biggest money-winner, writes on GOLF: A NEW APPROACH (Nicholas Kaye. 18s.), but it is the photographs of Mangrum in action that really make this book valuable. Believe it or not, Bing Crosby provides the introduction!

BIRDS IN ACTION (Collins. 16s.) is the latest nature book by Eric Hosking and Cyril Newberry. Here is bird photography on the highest plane, with the high-speed camera working at 1/10,000th of a second.

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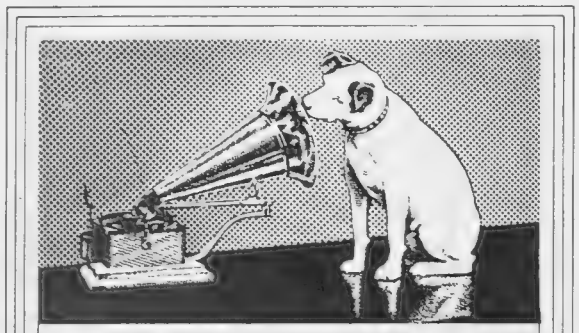

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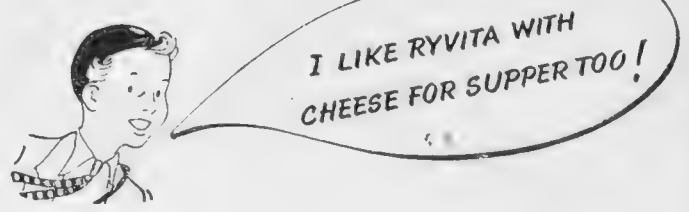

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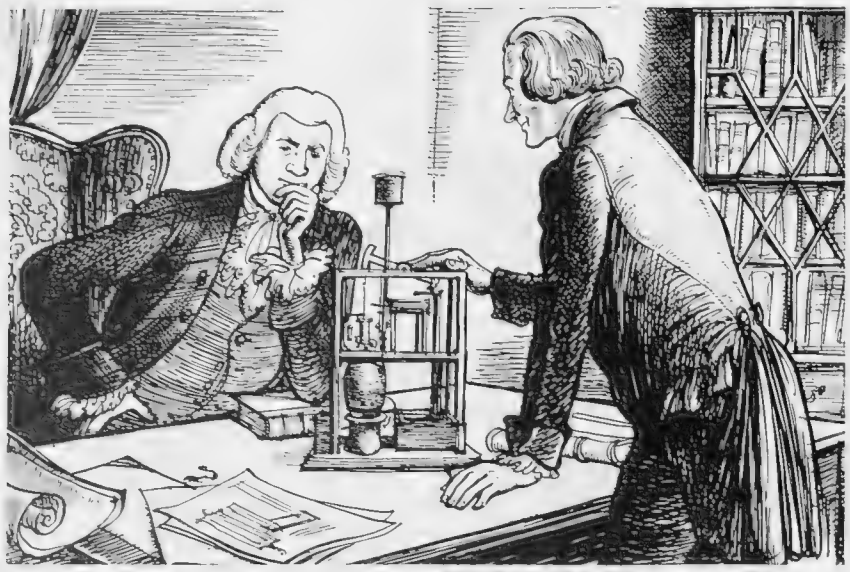

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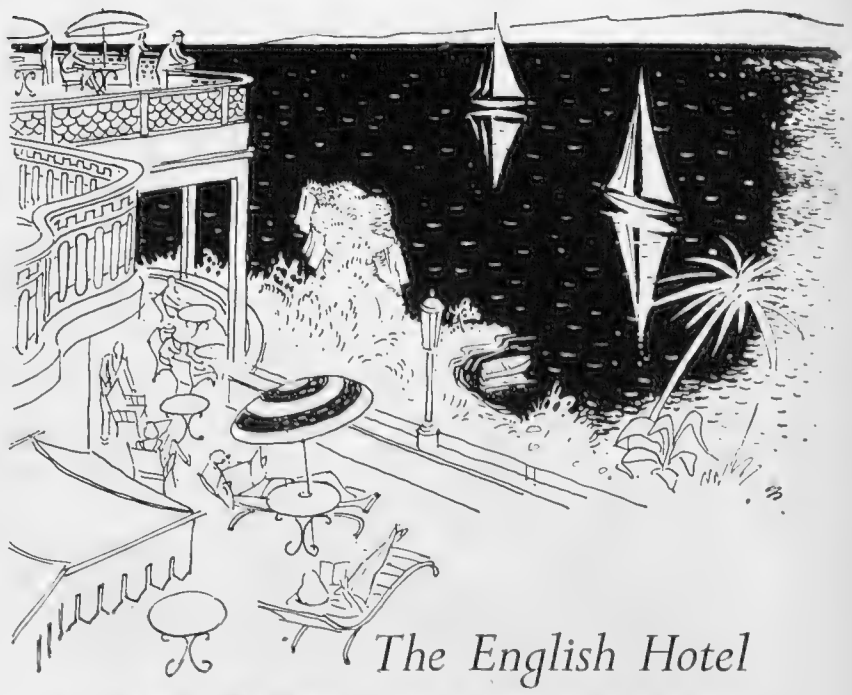

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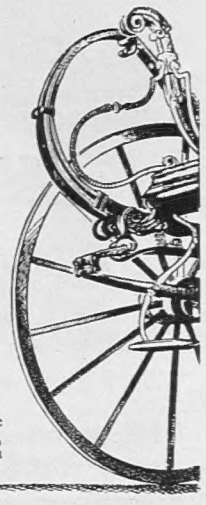

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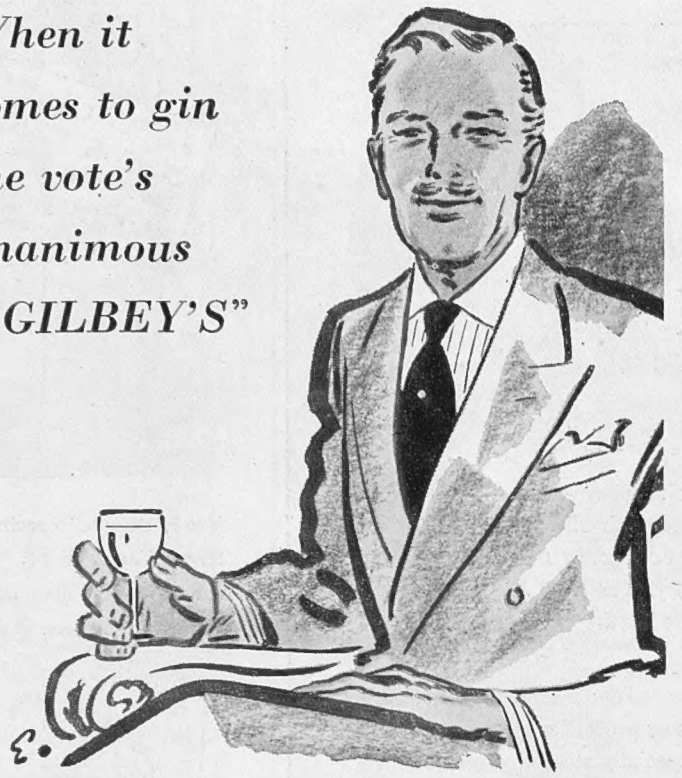

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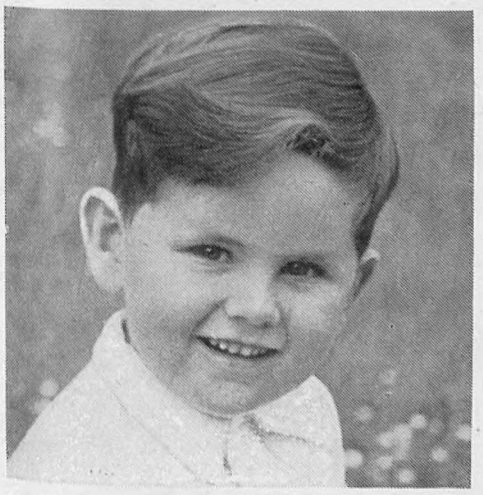

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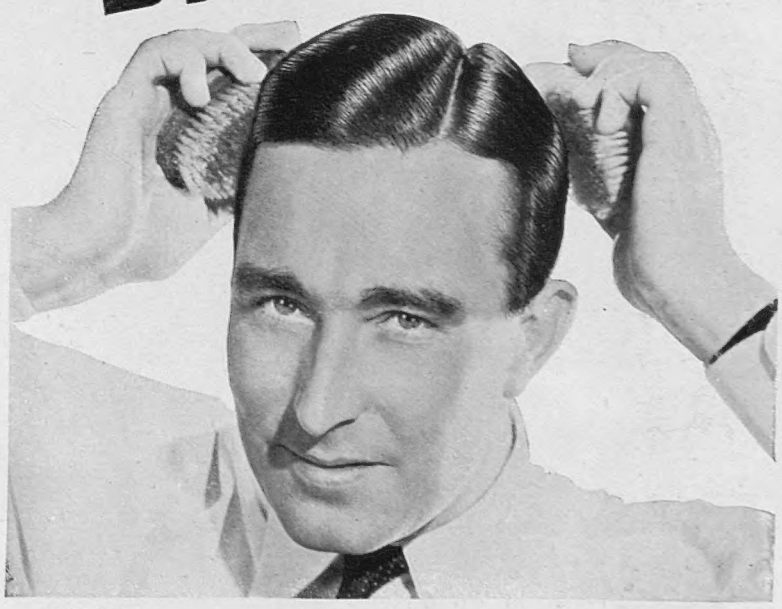

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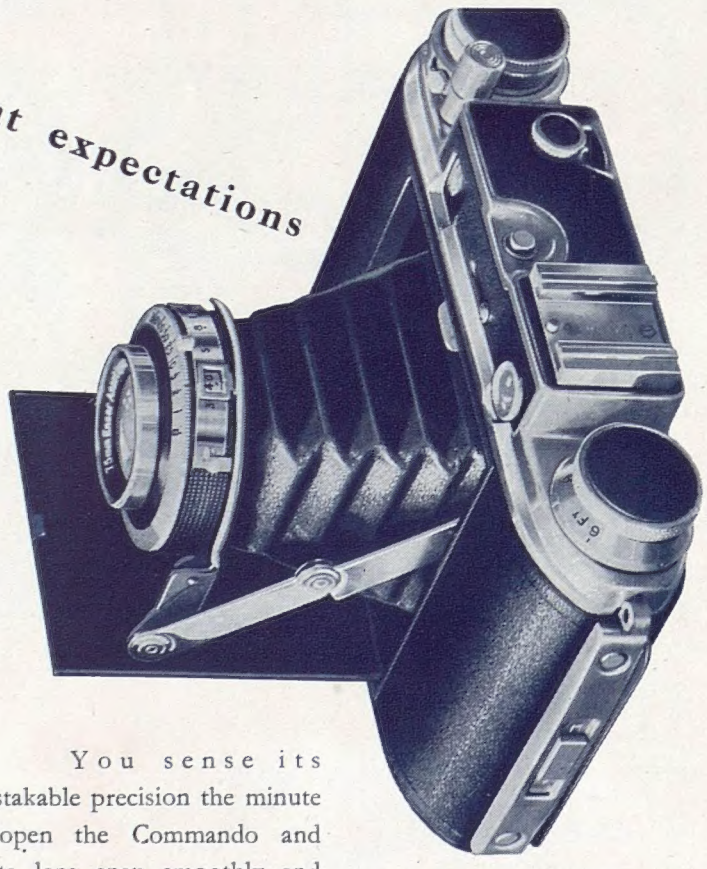

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